

# SUSPENSE!

Broadcast log, production notes,  
and detailed cast listings of...

*RADIO'S OUTSTANDING  
THEATER OF THRILLS!*



Written and Compiled by  
**Keith Scott**

July 2021 Edition

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## Foreword & Acknowledgments

This essay and log took a while to come together, just parts of five decades, that's all!

A radio show that lasted twenty years has many participants and they all deserve some long overdue recognition. This project relied on many colleagues in the radio collecting fraternity. In particular I must thank John Scheinfeld, one of the earliest radio collector-buffs who - while a young college student - began communicating with many people in the Bill Spier-*SUSPENSE* saga, including several important persons whom no-one else managed to reach before. He did this in the early 1970s, when the era was still fresh in their minds. Today, so many years later, those essential participants in *SUSPENSE* history are no longer with us. For graciously sharing his pioneering interviews and papers, I thank him greatly.

Thanks to John's tapes, I was able to hear from those people in their very own words, including Charles Vanda, Bill Spier, Tony Leader, Robert Richards, Bob Tallman, Peggy Rea, Berne Surrey, Elliott Lewis, Bill Robson, Bruno Zirato and others in the *SUSPENSE* story.

Further interviews include the fine *Golden Age of Radio* series by Dick Bertel and Ed Corcoran, and the many essential SPERDVAC recorded guests, again including the likes of Elliott Lewis, Peggy Rea, and various scriptwriters, sound men and actors. I particularly salute long-time friends Larry and John Gassman who copied a large number of the "SPERDVAC Presents" meetings for me.

To my collecting colleague and research associate Joe Webb, whose *SUSPENSE* enthusiasm is boundless, I thank him for sharing endless recordings, information, and much more. I am thankful too for his excellent formatting of my bare bones compilation of facts, as he did a year ago with my *ESCAPE* project.

I look forward to our next research day at the American Radio Archives when it is set up at its new home at the Univ. of Santa Barbara, post COVID. Joe's own publication, "THE SUSPENSE COLLECTORS COMPANION" is, I hasten to add, invaluable, and is regularly being updated.

Further primary research assistance was provided by Cynthia Thomas at the Thousand Oaks Library's American Radio Archive, and its supervisor, Jeanette Berard. Both these people graciously provided script cast page scans and more, and no request was too much.

Long-time *SUSPENSE* scholar Don Ramlow supplied a large number of scripts from the Auto-Lite era and I thank him for sharing them. Karl Schadow, a fine researcher, was most helpful with cast identifications. His painstaking articles in newsletters and Radio Spirits booklets are models of radio history and highly recommended.

Martin Grams' first book, *SUSPENSE: TWENTY YEARS OF THRILLS AND CHILLS* was written when he was still in high school, an amazing achievement. It contains a show by show log with detailed plot summaries and there are various historical quotes throughout the text. And a later book by Daryl Shelton, *SUSPENSE*, is another handy guide with some unexpected extras, including the script for the missing show "The Keenest Edge."

Enough of a foreword!

I dedicate this comprehensive log-reference-listening guide to the loyal band of *SUSPENSE* fanatics and I sincerely urge anyone who can add or correct any of the information via accurate documentation to contact me.

Keith Scott  
Sydney, Australia  
July 2021

## ***SUSPENSE*: Evolution of a Radio Classic**

*An appreciation of the series, its history, its people, and its far-reaching influence*

In early 1947, Davidson Taylor, long-time CBS Vice President and Director of Programs, submitted a dramatic series for consideration in the prestigious annual Peabody Awards for broadcasting excellence.

The program offered to the jury was *SUSPENSE*, specifically an uncommonly gripping half hour called “Dead Ernest,” and it was the recipient of an Honorable Mention in that year’s Peabody ceremony.

The show was by then five years old and recognized by professionals and listeners alike as something special. In the radio mystery field there had already been many shows that ranged from crime to outright horror. In the latter category there are many 1940s dramatic series that remain enjoyable to listen to some seventy years later — shows ranging from *THE HAUNTING HOUR* and *INNER SANCTUM MYSTERIES* to *THE WHISTLER* and *THE MYSTERIOUS TRAVELER*. These shows were all excellent productions but they still fall into varying degrees of a pulp magazine-style bloodcurdling format that could be hugely enjoyable while peddling stories that often ranged from the far-fetched (*INNER SANCTUM*’s “The Wailing Wall”) to the downright lurid (*LIGHTS OUT*’s “Come to the Bank”)... Many of these shows were immensely popular, especially in the tense wartime years from 1942-45, as people sought escapist entertainment, often the more over the top the better.

And then there was *SUSPENSE*, which from its earliest shows imparted the aura of drama that was a cut above. It was classy and sounded more distinguished, with the added attraction of an endless parade of big-name weekly stars playing lead roles. In its unusually long twenty year run — especially in its golden era from 1943-54 but even in the later years as radio was losing steam and entertainment money was being funneled into television — the show kept up a remarkably high standard.

In his submission to the Peabody committee, Taylor noted that *SUSPENSE* had “wrought permanent change in the whole concept of radio mystery ... it created a trend to treatment of mystery radio as mature drama, rather than as a superficial who-dun-it puzzle.” He added to that the reasons for the show’s ongoing high ratings: writing by accepted masters of “the art of mystery

literature of the air," the huge list of theatrically distinguished performers such as Orson Welles, Claude Rains, Sydney Greenstreet and Boris Karloff who added such classic status to the stories, the "special music" which did so much to create a unique mood to each play and the indefinable flair of "theatre" given to the show under the masterful direction of the singular William Spier.

Spier was the long-time producer, director and editor of the show, who gave each weekly production its smart pedigree. His background as a musical savant, a teenage critic for *Musical America* magazine under esteemed composer Deems Taylor, was matched by his equal talent for the grand dramatic flourish. While employed in the radio division of ad agency BBD&O, Spier became the assistant director on the agency's prestigious dramatic program *The March of Time*, where he learned a wide range of skills from timing a program to the judicious use of music to underscore dramatic tension to hasty rewrites and script editing. And he found an instant kinship with and love of radio performers. In his casting role he became acquainted with the cream of New York's voice talent, most of whom turned up a decade later when he headed *SUSPENSE* production.

### **In the beginning...**

*SUSPENSE* was really Bill Spier's show in a large sense, but he didn't create it. That credit fell to a man named Charles Vanda, and Spier always gave full marks to Vanda for the concept. A New Yorker, Vanda entered radio in the early 1930s and proved bright enough to be dispatched to Los Angeles in 1934-35 as CBS's West Coast Program Chief. The movie capital was becoming increasingly involved in network radio and would soon be outstripping Chicago and New York as a production center.

Vanda was involved in planning and budgeting all network shows coming out of Hollywood and the eleven western states. He also wrote, produced and directed shows like *Stars Over Hollywood*. By 1940 as the war gathered force in Europe, escapist entertainment shows were on the rise. Vanda had long desired to do a thriller program. He conceived the show as an adult drama with a well-known host inspired by Cecil B. DeMille's so called "Producer" role on the *Lux Radio Theatre*. And as with the Lux program, he wanted a full orchestra and famous stars.



Charles Vanda's boss William Lewis, a man who proudly championed experimental shows like *The Columbia Workshop*, okayed CBS's Lux summer replacement to be a sustaining time slot for auditioning new program ideas in a raft of categories. Vanda pitched his idea for a psychological thriller and wanted Alfred Hitchcock to host. Vanda felt, "I was reasonably sure the audience would accept melodramatic thrillers, well done and with important stars." Vanda was already envisioning "The Alfred Hitchcock Suspense Theatre" series to come.

At their initial meeting Hitchcock suggested using the title "Suspense," and expressed an interest in hosting should the audition show "work" and lead to being sponsored. Vanda hired leading radio writer Harold Medford, story editor on the hit show *Big Town*, and they decided on adapting the famous novel "The Lodger," about a Jack-the-Ripper-style killer of young women in London. Hitchcock himself had filmed the tense story fourteen years before.

Harold Medford recalled that the writing had to set the model for an intended series. It "involved the creation of a format and the setting of a style, beyond the drama itself, and I am glad to say that both the format and the style, down to and including the manner in which the music was keyed and utilized, held throughout the life of the series."

As well as Alfred Hitchcock, Vanda—through his agent friend Nat Wolfe—secured actors Herbert Marshall and Edmund Gwenn, both of whom were in the new Hitchcock movie *Foreign Correspondent*. "Hitch" attended Sunday's rehearsals of the show and contributed some creative suggestions for both the actors' line readings and the direction of Wilbur Hatch's climactic music. He was originally meant to appear on the show as himself, but the premiere of his movie *Rebecca* meant he had to hasten to New York and miss the live broadcast.

"The Lodger" aired as an episode of the proposed *SUSPENSE* in the umbrella preview series *FORECAST* on the night of July 19, 1940. It was reviewed by *Variety* and was noted as being "gripping" and made "a strong case for having Hitchcock on the air." But it wasn't meant to be, and *SUSPENSE* was not picked up. Vanda wouldn't give up and he sat on his mystery thriller concept for over a year.

By late in 1941 Vanda was called to CBS New York to take over some war-related programs (*THIS IS WAR*, *THE NATURE OF THE ENEMY*) and to

direct some *COLUMBIA WORKSHOPS*. His time was going to be limited because on the evening of the Pearl Harbor attack (December 7, 1941), Vanda flew to the nation's capital and enlisted.

The head of the CBS network William Paley dropped in to see Vanda on December 11 and they ended the meeting by discussing some ideas for future shows. Vanda made sure to mention his still-treasured concept of *SUSPENSE*.

During his time in Hollywood Vanda had known Bill Spier from the BBD&O ad agency for several years. When Spier joined the CBS staff in New York, they collaborated well on the follow-up 1941 *FORECAST* series. Months later at CBS headquarters, Vanda, who had relocated to New York, was in production meetings that led to the launch of *SUSPENSE*. Spier recalled it was his and Vanda's votes at a regular program meeting on the 21<sup>st</sup> floor that swung the decision. On December 14, Paley gave his approval for *SUSPENSE* to become sustaining summer series for mid-1942, in hopes of attracting a sponsor.

Vanda was overjoyed and he immediately contacted writer Harold Medford, who secured a temporary break from his new MGM film contract to come East to begin developing and writing the series. Over the next half year, they prepared "eleven to eighteen outlines" for potential stories. Although Bill Spier was head of CBS's New York Story Department at the time, it was Medford who polished the first seven shows.

Vanda was able to secure the gifted musician Bernard Herrmann to compose the show's scores and conduct the orchestra. Herrmann came up with the uniquely eerie opening theme which listeners came to associate forevermore with *SUSPENSE*.

*SUSPENSE* finally premiered on June 17, 1942. As producer-director Vanda was strong in his belief that the story was everything. Vanda said, "It was always important that we first had a real story. Because we intended to get very important stars, and we had to prove to them that we could do a great job for [that] star. If I had a damned good story I could get a damned good star."

As with his audition show "The Lodger," Vanda began with a "shock value" property, "The Burning Court" by mystery veteran John Dickson Carr. Seeking a star, he decided upon Charlie Ruggles, known for his comedic flair. Ruggles was in New York for the opening of his latest film, *Friendly Enemies*.

Thus the very first show—a supernatural thriller—was able to establish *SUSPENSE*'s unique knack of casting against type, and over the years various comedians from Milton Berle to Phil Silvers to Jack Benny jumped at the challenge to do something totally different, even villainous. Writer Harold Medford privately felt, however, that Ruggles was “horribly miscast.”

The second show was the John Collier mystery “Wet Saturday,” a grim tongue-in-cheek tale of murder. The final three shows by Vanda and Medford ranged from an original take on the real-life Lizzie Borden familicide case (Medford thought that Jeanne Cagney “did a fine job” in the lead), to a murder story set aboard a train, to an adaptation of the stage play “Rope” about a thrill kill (a major motion picture by Hitchcock five years later).

Sadly, only the first two Vanda-Medford shows survive, so we can't trace the development of any real directorial style in the missing three productions. In any event, it would likely have taken the show six months to find its exact character, and Vanda directed only five stories before he had to be in uniform.

The first show had some nice moments but like all first shows, it seemed a little stilted at times, as though finding its way. The second edition, “Wet Saturday,” was tinged with gallows humor and a superb performance by Broadway character lead Clarence Derwent. It was a little more polished, but like the first production, it came across a bit “stagey.” The series overall had an adult sensibility and a fine narrator in silken voiced Berry Kroeger. It seemed more grownup in approach than the other big thrill show of the time, *INNER SANCTUM*. It soon proved popular with the summer listeners.

One thing Vanda possessed was an ear for effective dramatic music. While he lacked Bill Spier's unmatched depth of musical knowledge, he had been a big band sax player and understood the power of music to heighten and underscore emotions.

Vanda completed his five shows then departed for his special Army posting as a Colonel, resigning from CBS on July 25, 1942. He was soon appointed as Expert Consultant to the Secretary of War and co-organized the Armed Forces Radio Service. In 1943, he would be transferred to Army Intelligence, serving in the Mediterranean and Africa. In his absence, *SUSPENSE* needed a guiding hand.

“When I went into the service Bill [Spier] came to me and asked me if he could take over the direction of the show while I was in the Army, and I said it was

all right by me because I had respect for his taste. He was a man of taste. So [Bill] became the director of *SUSPENSE* when I left."

Spier was by this point a major booster of the show. While at BBD&O he had been entranced by the *FORECAST* "Lodger" back in 1940, calling it "elegantly produced, very effectively adapted." He recalled phoning Vanda immediately to compliment him, and "I was rarely so enthusiastic over anything."

By 1942, William Spier was one of five top producers on staff at CBS, in a system recently put in place by network head William Paley. Each producer was put in charge of several programs and given a budget to cover them. A producer's duty involved assigning a director, supervising the scripts and music, and overseeing each show's production. Aware that Vanda was due to be called away, Spier began lobbying. As he put it, "I had my eye on *SUSPENSE*." Recognizing the show was perfect for his dramatic and musical talents, he quickly got his wish. He was awarded the producer role by CBS bosses Doug Coulter and Davidson Taylor who, after conferring with Vanda, agreed that Spier was certainly the right man for the job.

## **William Spier: Re-locating and Re-Imagining**

In 1976, famed radio producer, director, and writer William N. Robson stated, "Bill Spier did not create *SUSPENSE*, but he made it the great show it became." Spier completed the summer *SUSPENSE* series, and the show improved week by week. After two shows under Spier, the writer Harold Medford (who recalled, "Bill Spier was a fine guy") was urgently summoned back to MGM to learn he'd been drafted. Spier began hiring other scripters whose work he knew, like *SHADOW* writer Peter Barry.

Months earlier, when Vanda contracted Bernard Herrmann, the musician made sure to mention that his wife Lucille Fletcher was a talented writer. She submitted her uneasily atmospheric story "The Hitch-hiker", and it became *SUSPENSE*'s first all-time classic broadcast. The story was previously performed ten months earlier in Hollywood on CBS's Lady Esther sponsored *ORSON WELLES THEATER*. She wrote it expressly for Welles. It garnered considerable listener reaction.

For the *SUSPENSE* version of "The Hitch-hiker" Spier was happily able to obtain the talents of his old friend Welles, who had planned to visit New York. Orson Welles and Bill Spier went way back to 1935 and *THE MARCH*

*OF TIME* program. When Spier was casting that pioneering series he gave Welles, still in his late teens, his first radio break. With creative personalities that were perfectly in sync (both were true “wunderkinds”), they had remained close.

Welles favored the “first person singular” style of a lead character narrating the events. He had learned the technique as far back as *The March of Time* where pacy narration was cross faded with an actor and vice versa and music bridged the dramatic breaks. Welles adopted it as the stylistic stamp on his *MERCURY THEATRE* radio series in 1938. “The Hitch-hiker” was in that style. The performance was haunting and very subtle, and Welles was at his best. It was a ghost story with evocative sound patterns and chilling musical cues (composed by Herrmann in 1941 for the original West Coast Lady Ester production), and created a palpable sense of dread. It was a classic radio performance. With this show, Welles’s old Mercury engineer John Dietz came aboard to assist Spier as studio director.

Spier knew that “first person” was a most effective storytelling method, and after a year of developing *SUSPENSE* into the classiest dramatic show on the air, he would adopt that style for virtually all the shows.

When the 13-week summer run ended, the network was prepared to say goodbye to the property which hadn’t landed any sponsor interest. But the execs at CBS were surprised with enthusiastic listener mail praising the show. Spier knew that some of those same executives had also become fans, and he recalled, “I kept rooting for *SUSPENSE*. I thought it was one of our great shows and shouldn’t vanish.”

Spier kept pushing for a renewal and offered CBS the idea of linking the show to a prestigious author of mystery novels. He approached the agent of John Dickson Carr who had returned to the United States a few months earlier following nine years in England, land of his literary heroes. Carr’s story “The Burning Court” had been the very first *SUSPENSE* show, and a deal was soon in place for him to write exclusively for the program.

CBS finally reinstated the series for the 1942-43 fall season, to commence on October 27. Dietz returned with Spier, and a regular slightly menacing narrator who became the first signature voice of *SUSPENSE* was portrayed by actor Ted Osborne. Carr, known as a master of “locked room” mysteries that appeared unsolvable, ended up writing the first eleven scripts of the season

before he took a short break, and his distinctive tone was much in evidence: an overall English feeling, a somewhat stately pace with stories set in London or Europe. Spier was happy with this classic feel – he remained a lifelong Conan Doyle fanatic—and it would be other writers who did the more recognizably American stories like “Death Went Along for the Ride.”

Carr’s scripts were readied and the first six shows went off very well, although they lacked the use of star names. Big movie stars were one of the original briefs for the series, and highly desired by both Vanda and Spier. After Welles’ summer appearance Spier was determined to turn *SUSPENSE* into a true star vehicle. The current budget only allowed for top radio and stage talent like Martin Gabel and Nicholas Joy.

With the seventh fall show, “Till Death Do Us Part,” Spier got what he wanted: a big star, and perfect for *SUSPENSE*, the singularly eccentric Peter Lorre, a fine actor already building a career in mystery screen roles. From here Spier was able to entice top Broadway and screen names like Stu Erwin, George Coulouris, Henry Hull and Ralph Bellamy in lead roles.

But Spier, like Vanda, really envisioned the biggest of Hollywood names to star in *SUSPENSE*. His wife, Kay Thompson, was a leading voice coach, choral arranger, and star vocalist. She had recently been contracted to work in MGM’s huge music department beginning in early 1943. Spier had been hinting to CBS executives that the show should be transplanted to Los Angeles. He could have easier access to many more big stars and their agents. Now that Kay had to relocate, it became far easier to convince the CBS brass that the show would have to move West.

Spier went to Los Angeles for three weeks on a trial basis in February 1943 and produced *SUSPENSE* at KNX, the CBS Hollywood production center. He was able to hire three well known film names, all associated with mystery related movies: Bela Lugosi, the famed Dracula of stage and screen, along with Sydney Greenstreet and Mary Astor, both from the fine detective puzzler *The Maltese Falcon*. CBS Coast staffers for these shows were Ted Bliss, who directed under Spier, and Lucien Morawek, who composed the music for each drama with maestro Lud Gluskin conducting the studio orchestra. These two musicians would be involved for the next eleven years. Busy actor Joe Kearns —appearing at that time as the voice of “The Whistler” in the show of the

same name—filled in as the show’s Hollywood narrator-intro voice, otherwise called “The Man in Black.”

The Hollywood shows were well received, even if using writer J. Donald Wilson meant that two of the stories sounded much like new *WHISTLER* episodes, the series that was his primary task. Spier returned to New York and produced seven more shows during which time he got the green light for his full-time move to Los Angeles. The first permanent Hollywood show was “Fear Paints a Picture” on April 13, 1943. The show remained a West Coast production for the next sixteen years and the hunt continued for a sponsor to pay the bills for top drawer movie talent. Bernard Herrmann and author Carr had to stay back East. The California staff from February 1943, including sound man Berne Surrey, was recalled and remained with the show for many years.

John Dickson Carr continued writing and five more mysteries sprang from his fertile imagination before he returned to London at the request of the BBC in June 1943. Spier felt that Carr’s continuous flow of scripts, while top notch, had a little too much of the same feel and he began to seek a broader writing talent base. From this point Spier began giving freelance writers gigs, so as to have a more varied selection of subject matter.

Of all the many writers who would contribute to *SUSPENSE* none made an impact quite like Lucille Fletcher. She followed up “The Hitch-hiker” with a creepy show called “The Diary of Sophronia Winters.” An unsettling tale of mental cruelty and creeping dementia, it had gothic touches like an eerily unoccupied hotel. It featured outstanding acting by two of Spier’s old *MARCH OF TIME* players, Agnes Moorehead and Ray Collins (both of whom were important members of Welles’s Mercury Theater company of actors). A month later on May 25, 1943 Ms Fletcher contributed her most famous script, “Sorry, Wrong Number” and Agnes Moorehead was again cast by Spier to star. Despite various voices on the other end of a telephone, it was essentially a one woman show.

Much has been written about this play featuring a neurotic, bedridden woman and her travails with the seemingly heartless telephone company, and it would be redundant to go over it yet again. But it should be noted that it was repeated less than three months later and got such an overwhelming reaction that an additional six broadcasts of the show occurred, as well as an LP record

and TV and movie versions. No one seemed to capture the increasingly unreasoning tantrums and signs of impending nervous collapse as well as Agnes Moorehead, whose readings of Fletcher's dialogue were the essence of radio acting. Her subtle tempo changes, bursts of irrational rudeness and constant self-pitying whines created a pathetic and tragic human before our ears, one whom listeners instinctively knew was doomed. It was Ms Fletcher's genius to make the lead character more and more unlikable, and she had based it on a "rich snooty woman" whose awful behavior she had observed years before. This is the show that truly put *SUSPENSE* on the radio map for all time.

In early July 1943, Spier suffered the first of the four heart attacks which plagued him in his prime years, and this one was serious. He wryly blamed "hearing other directors" and what they did to his shows. It made him determined to become a full Producer-Director when he was up to it. While he was indisposed, he gave his studio director, former actor Ted Bliss, notes on each upcoming show, and his production duties were taken over by an old New York colleague Robert Lewis Shayon.

Shayon had subbed for him in 1942 on "The Cave of Ali Baba" when Spier's editing duties on other shows (like *RADIO READERS DIGEST*) became too pressing. Shayon recalled, "William Spier became ill. They gave me the job of producing and directing, so I went out to Hollywood for several months. We had lots of stars—Robert Young, Fredric March. The big stars used to like radio, and it was lots of fun working with them."

## ***SUSPENSE* Enters Its Classic Period**

Spier, once recovered, became full Producer-Director on September 23, 1943 and soon began employing Welles' "first person" style for all future installments. The central character would now be the storyteller, rather than a lone narrator. Welles did four excellent shows for Spier at this point, and *SUSPENSE* began to blossom into its fondly remembered classic sound, with Spier's full talents on display. His range of audio skills came to full fruition, learned from those heady years with *THE MARCH OF TIME*, a complex program requiring a team of skilled radio specialists, adept in the techniques of sound effects, mike balancing for a large cast and musical coloration.

With the lengthy parade of Hollywood stars boosting the show weekly, Spier remembered, "We sold the show very quickly to the Milton Biow



[advertising] agency." *SUSPENSE* became a sponsored show in December 1943 when superstar Cary Grant appeared in a *noir*-ish adaptation of Cornell Woolrich's fine tale of missing identity "The Black Curtain." It was Biow's client, The Roma Wine Company, that would now pay the bills. The budget increased and the show entered its golden period.

Until this point, Spier had attracted a parade of top movie character players, theatrical veterans who recognized early what good material the show offered for their talents. Such unique actors as Edmund Gwenn, Eric Blore, Donald Crisp and the sepulchral George Zucco, along with the great Charles Laughton had done fine shows. The star movie names heard were still on the lower rung: either on the downside of their careers like Richard Dix or Dolores Costello, younger ones like Philip Dorn, or British actors like John Loder who filled Carr's earlier shows with genuine accents to match the story locales.

But with Roma Wines aboard, the show was able to afford the top tier, and people like Edward G. Robinson, Alan Ladd, Ida Lupino, Joseph Cotten, Lloyd Nolan, Humphrey Bogart, Dana Andrews, Gregory Peck and a long list of other marquee names began to appear. Lurene Tuttle, who did many supporting parts, felt that the big movie stars worked harder on *SUSPENSE* than on any other program. She knew the difference, because she had worked with them all since 1936 on *HOLLYWOOD HOTEL*.

Maxine Anderson, from the Biow agency, conferred with Spier on the star casting. She enthused, "Stars ask to be on *SUSPENSE*. They love to work with Bill Spier." Indeed it seemed the show used everyone in town (with the exception of Gable, Gary Cooper, John "The Duke" Wayne and Spencer Tracy).

Spier recalled, "I chose the stories in almost all cases." He worked with each writer going over motives and plots and suggesting a potential star to match the material. "I rewrote—or edited—with each writer, infinite times, the structure, the peak climactic point. I indicated the stars I wanted, and I never, ever submitted a script for approval. And no star was ever given an advance script for approval. The stars were never offered [huge] pay, they were pleased to work on the show in exchange for awfully good roles. And I chose the [support] cast." He had a dedicated secretary in Peggy Rea, an aspiring

actress who assisted him with casting, and who played several small parts herself.

A subtle shift occurred in the writing ranks as Spier secured the services of two more *MARCH OF TIME* veterans, Robert L. Richards and Bob Tallman. These two were gifted scribes, prolific and fast. Richards found the show a fun job, and described Spier and Tallman as two of the best in the game. Tallman was one who thrived on deadlines. He recalled writing single scripts in a day with rewrites squeezed into the hour between rehearsal and air. While Spier's control room assistant Milton Stark timed each ten seconds via a stopwatch, Spier's quirky habit of going into a show with a script that was a minute or more overtime meant he could push the cast into a breathlessly fast delivery and climactic speedups.

There were now many more American based plots with a raft of stories adapted from the master of hard-boiled mystery fiction, Cornell Woolrich. His fateful and dark tales, and similar stories by others gave the show a richer feel, the radio equivalent of the emerging *film noir* movies, with their doomed protagonists who often find themselves in danger — triggered by seemingly accidental involvements in crime or problematic love entanglements — that only escalate. Engaging world-weary tales like "The Man Who Couldn't Lose" and "Heart's Desire" resembled those excellent little Fox or Warner "B" movies of the 1940s with fatalistic twists of circumstance, that were often deemed more enjoyable than the main glossy feature films.

By 1944 *SUSPENSE*, like *THE MERCURY THEATER* before it, boasted a sophisticated sound design to each story, a rich blend of mood music that underlined up each crucial story point, and a new attention to realistic sound effects. The radio historian John Dunning described Spier's shows as "audio masterpieces."

The swelling orchestral sound was by now a *SUSPENSE* trademark, with conductor Lud Gluskin praising Morawek's scores as unusual and evocative. "Often a haunting part identifies one character or one incident in the play. Every portion of the score has a function to perform." The orchestra was mostly sixteen pieces and isolated from the cast to ensure a perfect balance.

Composer Lucien Morawek told *Radio Life* that Spier was the most musically adept radio director he had ever worked with. As Spier put it, "I sat with the composer at my piano, and I indicated all the story points musically. Every

attitude, punctuation, every up and down, time lapses, climaxes, the color. The nuancing of the music is inseparable from good dramatic radio." The music, Spier knew, stirred listener emotions: "it could impart the creating of a spell of loneliness, of awe, of majesty."

Actor Elliott Lewis was writing a *SUSPENSE* script and was invited to Spier's house to discuss it. He recalls, "Spier was a prodigy. He was married to Kay Thompson, and they had two grand pianos in the living room. When we were having coffee I happened to mention a recording I'd heard of [the opera] "Boris Godunov," and Spier said, 'Ah, yes!' then went to his piano and he played the entire first scene for me. When I complimented him I said he must have studied it only recently, and he said, 'I haven't played that piece since I was seventeen years old.' Fabulous man...his memory was fantastic. I thought he was more talented overall than either Norman Corwin or Arch Oboler."

Another highlight in the Roma years is the development of what became Bill Spier's stock company. Since *THE MARCH OF TIME* ten years before, Spier had showed a flair for casting the large band of anonymous radio thespians who were the backbone of the medium. He was intensely loyal to these freelancers and many young *MARCH* actors—Orson Welles, Agnes Moorehead, Van Heflin, Jeanette Nolan—ended up on *SUSPENSE*.

Charles Vanda had also recognized the value of the busy radio acting specialists. He referred to them as "unknowns but beautifully talented people, which was one of the joys of working in radio in those days."

Spier loved his band of "radio actors" like a father figure, and thoroughly enjoyed the banter of their company. These voice talents, regarded with awe by the top movie stars, were the ones who added the final breath of life to the scripts. Elliott Lewis, Lurene Tuttle, Jack Edwards, Harry Lang and the like had an ability to reproduce endless dialects, age groups and character types—from boss to worker, cop to robber, menacing to funny and everything in between—and they were what made the shows really sing.

Spier used a large number of these artists of the air, all members of the AFRA radio talent union. By Roma's final three years, 1945-47, it was the almost weekly appearances by a handful of these versatile players who truly preferred radio work over stage or screen (Joe Kearns, Wally Maher, Cathy Lewis, Bill Johnstone, Jeanette Nolan, *et al*) that gave the show its unique flavor.

The *SUSPENSE* rehearsals were legendary for their brevity. Spier knew he was hiring gifted star actors, and the supporting regulars were instant sight readers. Other radio directors favored long rehearsals, like the immortal William N. Robson. He disparaged Spier's rehearsal M.O. but it worked like a well-oiled machine for the Roma years. Spier's direction from the booth was praised by actors like Lurene Tuttle who recalled he never shouted but radiated enjoyment of each performance. She said his advice was always "concise and helpful." Bob Tallman called him "unobtrusive" yet he "brought out the best" in his players.

Spier's native instinct for the audio medium was the major reason the show was now the top drama on the air. As the years went by, it was the one radio show on which the movie stars became increasingly eager to appear. Spier himself had become the equivalent of what certain film directors were later labeled: an *auteur*, a director who put his own personal stamp on each story and made his show the 1940s equivalent of what we now call "appointment television."

Spier's choice of chief sound effects artist was Berne Surrey who remembered being with *SUSPENSE* "since the very first Hollywood show." Not only was Surrey a creative self-starter and an ingenious technician, but his theatrical background impressed Spier. He sensed the sound man's empathy with star actors. In turn, Surrey found Spier "always at ease, and in charge, but quiet. Never bombastic." Surrey's favorite assignments included his many times with Agnes Moorehead on the various versions of "Sorry, Wrong Number" and his intricate work on "Donovan's Brain." In that eerie show he had to originate the sound of a detached but still living brain and its various disturbed emotions.

Throughout Roma Wine's four years the range of stories was vast, from crime and punishment yarns like "The Defense Rests," foreign intrigue ("The Black Path of Fear"), infidelity ("Murder for Myra"), espionage ("Dateline: Lisbon"), wartime tensions ("You Were Wonderful"), and good old racketeering ("Love's Lovely Counterfeit"). There was an unwritten rule, as Spier noted: "I didn't look for horror stories, with the rarest exceptions, like the monster tale by Lovecraft ['The Dunwich Horror'] and a favorite of mine 'August Heat,' with its overtones of fatality. And I initiated the radio two-parter with 'Donovan's Brain.' But overall I preferred the explicable, people rather than ghosts."

The Welles shows were always grandly melodramatic and memorable, like “Donovan’s Brain,” “The Marvelous Barastro” (featuring Spier playing himself in dialogue with his old pal Orson as the title character) and “The Dark Tower.” *SUSPENSE* even ventured into the light-hearted on occasion, just to amuse the huge audience the show had built and offer an occasional change of tone. William Bendix did a crooked “Chester Riley” type for the humorous Chandler story “Pearls Are a Nuisance” while Michael O’Shea gave a droll performance in “Photo Finish.”

A recurring theme was the menacing character who started out seemingly meek but quickly spiraled into unhinged homicidal danger. One such was Frank Sinatra’s fine dramatic debut in “To Find Help.” Another featured Elliott Lewis in a script he wrote about a soft-voiced stalker who turns feral, “Can’t We Be Friends?”

This author leans to “The Hitch-hiker” as his top favorite show, although the Peabody Award winner “Dead Ernest” comes a close second. It’s a true nail-biter as a cataleptic man ends up on a mortuary slab just seconds away from an embalmer’s scalpel. It was the epitome of radio’s power to create tension. And another fine production called “Heart’s Desire,” featuring the resonant Lloyd Nolan, was a personal favorite of Spier’s. There are far too many shows in the Bill Spier era to mention here and those who use this reference log will know how to seek them out.

As for Spier’s own take on the show’s high reputation, he offered, “It was anthological, and it broke all the rules. No running character every week. A theatre of excitement rather than an elementary bunch of excitements...it had theatre quality. Quality actors, who were glad to be asked to do the show. Ronald Colman, Charles Laughton, Eva Le Gallienne, the cross-casting of Karloff, Lorre. I was proud also of the writers I was able to encourage like Lucy Fletcher, Robert L. Richards, E. Jack Neuman.”

In the late summer of 1945, Charles Vanda concluded his posting with Army Intelligence. He returned to Hollywood radio and, somewhat naively, expected to quickly take over the reins of *SUSPENSE*. But in the three years Vanda had been absent, CBS had changed from what he remembered. His boss Bill Lewis had left for a Government posting and the hierarchy was now different. CBS was, post-war, looking to topple NBC in first place and the new programming heads Ernest Martin and Harry Ackerman were looking at new

concepts and plans. They liked *SUSPENSE* exactly as it was. They were well aware that Spier's talent had got it to its current elite status. The existing relationship with the Biow agency and their client Roma was profitable for CBS, and there was a sense of "if it ain't broke" about the matter. Vanda's request to return to *SUSPENSE* went cold.

Spier was embarrassed and met with Vanda. He admitted he felt bad that Vanda had lost out. The network offered Vanda other programs: he directed *THEATRE OF ROMANCE* and a similar thrill show he had formulated, *INTRIGUE*. Both were movie star based productions. Charles Vanda professed no rancor about *SUSPENSE* but it was in truth a lingering resentment for the rest of his life. As an olive branch, Spier offered Vanda the role of directing *SUSPENSE* on five occasions between 1945-47, starting with "Summer Storm."

## **A Parting Of The Ways: Roma, Then Spier**

By the spring of 1947, change was in the air. *SUSPENSE* was consistently rating well and was still a prestige program but the Roma decided that they had had enough of sponsorship, blaming "the collapse of the wine market," and they altered their advertising plans. They announced the show would end on May 22, 1947, but it was extended to November after the Peabody Award was announced. Roma was essentially embarrassed into renewing, but the award publicity did not boost wine sales, and the contract was not renewed. The final Roma episode was "One Hundred in the Dark." Following a limited five week series of sustaining shows on Fridays, with some popular stories performed anew, the hunt for the next sponsor began. It was felt that until a bankroller could be found the show might benefit from an overhaul.

It was decided to revitalize the show with a total format change. Spier said, "I advised CBS to do it as a one hour show." Along with this expanded Saturday time slot, and to retain the aura of class the show carried, it was felt that a permanent host, as on *LUX RADIO THEATRE*, might be the key. Spier suggested hiring prominent actor-director Robert Montgomery (who had just helmed and starred in a *film noir* called *Ride the Pink Horse*), and he became the show's star narrator and occasional lead player.

Spier had big plans for the new format. Among the authors and stories he projected for 26 weeks were:

- Dashiell Hammett      The Maltese Falcon  
                                    The Glass Key
- James M. Cain        Love's Lovely Counterfeit  
                                    Double Indemnity
- Graham Greene      This Gun for Hire  
                                    Brighton Rock
- Agatha Christie      The Murder of Roger Achroyd  
                                    The ABC Murders
- Raymond Chandler    The Big Sleep
- Charles Dickens      A Tale of Two Cities  
                                    The Mystery of Edwin Drood
- William Shakespeare    Macbeth

The show began with a production of the Cornell Woolrich favorite "The Black Curtain," already done twice as a half hour. But by opening it out to sixty minutes the basic problem with the new *SUSPENSE* instantly became all too apparent. As *Variety* said, "instead of strengthening characters and allowing greater dimension [the expansion] merely padded the 30-minute version without clarifying all the plot angles."

Spier resigned from his beloved *SUSPENSE* after just five editions (his last was a remake of his classic 2-parter "Donovan's Brain"), following major disagreements with the CBS program department. He was essentially unhappy with the idea of a show host and quickly realized he much preferred the half hour format. He may even have felt a little foolish for suggesting the hour shows. It is possible that Spier was by this point suffering some burn out after the lengthy five year run of continuous shows without a break, along with the added responsibilities of a second radio show.

The hard-boiled detective send-up *THE ADVENTURES OF SAM SPADE* proved one of Spier's happiest experiences and he had begun producing and directing the private eye's weekly capers in mid-1946. He divorced Kay at the end of that year, and was now in a relationship with actress June Havoc. They were planning to get married just as the one hour series got underway. The

personal aspects of his life were undergoing a sea change, while on the creative front many stories Spier wanted to try in the longer format were being rejected.. He felt, "There were a lot of problems that I just didn't care to put up with anymore."

At the time he left, Spier was asked to produce and direct a 13-week cycle of *THE CLOCK* for the ABC network, from March 4 to May 23. The mystery show had been produced in New York for over a year before being moved to the Coast. It was immediately obvious that this was Spier's comfort zone because several of the shows he did for this half-hour thriller were remakes of *SUSPENSE* stories including one of the best remembered, the creepily effective "The House in Cypress Canyon." The same thing occurred when he returned to CBS in the fall to produce and direct the anthology drama *THE PHILIP MORRIS PLAYHOUSE* for a full 39 week season, with a long list of stars he had used on *SUSPENSE*. Not only did he remake seven earlier *SUSPENSE* stories, including the classic "August Heat" (again starring Ronald Colman), but at least another six scripts were shows which *SUSPENSE* would tackle in the future.

## **New Director, New Sponsor, Refreshed Direction**

A replacement for Spier on the long-form *SUSPENSE* was hastily sought, and Bill Robson filled in on two shows. The decision had been made by Harry Ackerman to hire New York-based director Anton Leader. A veteran of the radio business, he was involved with many series originating from Manhattan, such as *RADIO READERS' DIGEST*. In the mystery genre he had done *MURDER AT MIDNIGHT*. Leader's first show for *SUSPENSE* was "Beyond Reason." Some of his one hour productions were enjoyable but it was obvious in many cases that *Variety* had hit the nail on the head. The series was simply meant for half hour presentations. Leader soon agreed: "Some of the stories and ideas were very brief and needed considerable fleshing out for the hour."

Leader's new posting meant he was responsible for choosing the plays and writers, and the movie stars, along with supervising rehearsals and the staging of the shows. This was a heavy load for a new hire unused to Hollywood, and to ease his learning curve CBS appointed two proven writers, Ken Crossen and later John Dunkel, to suggest material and vet submissions. As each broadcast was readied, Leader would meet with that show's



scriptwriter personally. In his role as script editor, Crossen furnished weekly stories while Leader took a self-imposed crash course in Hollywood's radio acting talent pool. He held a series of short auditions to choose many actors with a wide range of voices and abilities, a fresh approach differing from Spier's repeated use of a small nucleus of regulars.

Once Leader got underway he found Bob Montgomery a pleasure to work with. "He was most cooperative but had actually nothing to do with the show beyond his normal duties of narration." Leader noted that for those shows in which he starred, Montgomery also "consulted on the script and casting."

Meantime CBS had commenced talks with the Electric Auto-Lite Company and in March it was announced they would sponsor *SUSPENSE* for a 13-week trial summer run starting July 8th. Robert Montgomery left the one hour run five weeks early, because his salary demand was too high. Leader was happy to do away with the host idea, feeling that "the show itself was the star" and one [movie star] name per show was sufficient.

Royce Martin the Auto-Lite President, a hard-nosed self-made executive who happened to love show business, did a deal directly with CBS via his old friend Bill Paley, then engaged ad agency Newell-Emmett, with Tom Maloney in charge of sponsor commercials for Auto-Lite spark plugs and batteries. Maloney hired one of radio's best sales voices in Harlow Wilcox, familiar from years of hawking Johnson's Wax for *Fibber McGee and Molly*.

The premier show, "The Last Chance," received a nice review, *Variety* praising the show as "artfully scripted, skillfully produced and persuasively played. Cary Grant was excellent in a long part." The new *SUSPENSE*, back to its comfortable half-hour format achieved its best figures yet, with almost 15,000,000 listeners weekly. After its first fortnight on air, it hit fourth place in the national ratings. Auto-Lite's sponsorship also marked the first time in its history that *SUSPENSE* would observe an annual summer hiatus each July and August.

Leader noted that during his time on the show, early 1948 to July '49, "radio and *SUSPENSE* were at their zenith." Some highlights for him included "The Yellow Wallpaper" where he was reacquainted with Agnes Moorehead from his New York days, and directing her again for a repeat of "Sorry, Wrong Number." He was hesitant to do this show at first, feeling he would be simply duplicating a show by Spier. But as the listener requests kept mounting he

agreed, and he found himself becoming totally immersed in the tension of that classic story.

He also enjoyed doing a particular show requested by the sponsor. Auto-Lite was eager to win the National Safety Award to boost their promotional profile, so he had a number of meetings with writer Walter Newman and they tailored a harrowing story about speeding and car accidents. "Newman wrote an excellent script called "No Escape" which attracted James Cagney to star, and we won the award."

Some of the Auto-Lite shows in this period were superb dramas, maintaining the classy aura that had been established by Spier. One show starring Van Heflin, "Three O'Clock," was every bit as much of a hair-raiser as "Dead Ernest" or "Cypress Canyon." The new budget ensured the highest quality production values, while the continued use of composer Morawek and conductor Gluskin made the shows appear relatively seamless in the transition from Spier to Leader. Paul Frees was cast as the sonorous new signature voice of *SUSPENSE* (he had been on an earlier Auto-Lite show with crooner Dick Haymes).

Leader recalled "We had a first read-through on Tuesdays." Here he ironed out any weak points in the script. "Thursdays we worked from 10 a.m. until dress rehearsal at 4, then at 6 p.m. the show was broadcast."

Soon, the use of recording tape created the ability to pre-record programs. It became accepted practice after Bing Crosby's 1946 success with *PHILCO RADIO TIME*. The 1948 *SUSPENSE* season was the first to do away with the long established tradition of two broadcast performances—one for the local and mountain zones, and a repeat for the West Coast—by allowing playback of transcriptions. But *SUSPENSE* just had one national broadcast at across all of the time zones when the Auto-Lite sponsorship began. It is likely that Auto-Lite would not fund two separate broadcasts, especially since part of their deal with CBS was to sponsor the upcoming *SUSPENSE* television series.

The first time *SUSPENSE* produced one show on tape involved "microphone fright." *Variety* mentioned pre-recording "The Ten Years" in order that "Joan Crawford won't be jittered by a studio audience, which is why she isn't on radio more often." The production may have recorded Crawford and the production cast, but union contracts had lesser costs if the transcription was played while the orchestra performed live in the studio during the playback!

Looking back, Leader could boast that *SUSPENSE* ratings for the 1948-49 season were “the highest in the series’ history.”

Many of the same movie stars who worked for Spier returned to the series with Leader for the dramatically challenging scripts that made *SUSPENSE* so noteworthy. Listeners were treated to more fine performances by Charles Laughton, Gregory Peck, John Garfield and Fredric March along with such newcomers to the show as Burt Lancaster (Leader gave him his first radio job), Ray Milland, William Powell and Pat O’Brien. The glamour aspect certainly hadn’t faded from the show and the Auto-Lite sponsorship was to last for a full six years.

Anton Leader’s time with the show ended abruptly, however. He admitted, “I became fed-up with the CBS executive Guy Della Cioppa.” He considered the production boss overrated, and they clashed. Discussing his contract renewal with its large salary increase, Leader insisted he wouldn’t liaise with Della Cioppa anymore. Chief sound man Berne Surrey, who had enjoyed a long and friendly relationship with Bill Spier, hinted that Leader was his own worst enemy, noting “He was a real jerk. Very condescending. One of those people who always had to be right.” In any event, Guy Della Cioppa had more connections and was far more entrenched at Columbia Square than Tony Leader had realized. He claimed he resigned but in practical terms he may have been summarily dismissed. With the show renewed for another season with Auto-Lite, William Spier was welcomed back for the 1949-50 season.

*SUSPENSE* and Auto-Lite enjoyed a fine second season with Spier back at the helm producing and editing the stories. He was also producing and directing the third year of *SAM SPADE* and to ease his burden CBS staff director Norman Macdonnell, fresh from a stellar season of *ESCAPE* productions, was appointed Spier’s control room director. The supporting casts now consisted of a mix of both Spier’s and Macdonnell’s “stock companies,” while the roll call of glamorous Hollywood stars continued to impress the show’s large and loyal audience.

Highlights of this season included one with Mrs. Spier, June Havoc, who teamed with one of her husband’s all-time favorites Charles Laughton in “Blind Date.” And a tense show with Jimmy Stewart called “Mission Completed” was a fine study of shellshock in a paralyzed war veteran. Red Skelton found his role in “The Search for Isabel” a change of pace from his

normal raucous comedy antics, and there were fine star turns by great actors like Bette Davis, Ray Milland and Edward Arnold. But by season's end Spier, the man who had made *SUSPENSE* the classic it was, had resigned. He had new goals to be involved in motion pictures and television.

Spier left the show for good at the 1950 summer break, recalling: "I recommended Elliott Lewis take over as producer-director." Lewis said, "I took over when Bill Spier had to go to Europe for a film with James and Pamela Mason. He asked me to do it, he was confident in me, after I had [directed] some *SAM SPADE* shows for him." Elliott Lewis was someone Spier had seen develop fully, from acting to contributing and co-editing original stories to production.

Elliott Lewis was one of radio's most interesting talents, with wide-ranging capabilities in acting, writing, directing, and other tasks, equally at home in drama and comedy. Lewis admitted that acting had become a bore to him because his gift of interpretation "came too easily." He hinted that Spier was another who was so bright that he was finally, inevitably, jaded by the years of weekly repetition. Lewis, always close to Spier, nevertheless labeled him "lazy" toward the end of the 1949 season, as if Spier had finally peaked and was now on a downhill run. "He reached the point where he once said to me, 'I can't stand having an opening night every Thursday.' He started leaving his scripts a little long, as if they were unworkable. His heart condition may have been a factor." And Lewis felt that once Spier began traveling with June Havoc, he simply "didn't want the challenge anymore."

## **The Elliott Lewis Era**

Elliott Lewis's first show was "True Report" on August 31, 1950. He recalled, "At first we were live, then gradually we moved [the show] over to tape [full-time]. By then it was the only way [we could] get certain stars." The new technological changes in recording suited Lewis who maintained as busy a schedule as anyone in network radio. He was already directing *BROADWAY IS MY BEAT* and *PURSUIT* as well as his weekly job acting on the long-running *PHIL HARRIS-ALICE FAYE* comedy series. He began directing *SUSPENSE* after finishing the initial summer series of the gritty police drama *THE LINEUP*. Writer and CBS executive Bill Froug estimated that Lewis was such a hard worker throughout the early 50s, that he ended up "earning \$90,000 a year out of radio, which was extraordinary for the time (equivalent

to more than \$1 million in 2021 US\$). Other producer-directors like Norman Macdonnell didn't earn that sort of money."

Lewis felt the transition from Spier to himself was totally smooth. "Nothing was different. You had an idea, you'd read an original, you'd work with the writer on the scripts, then cast it and arrange your rehearsal. Directing radio is the same as stage or film—it's having a rapport with your actors, helping with the interpretation of what the writer was after. Our stage and film guests were all extremely capable." And Lewis was well liked by all the West Coast radio artists who were eternally grateful for the endless jobs he provided.

The musicians discussed the cues with Lewis and Lud Gluskin then rehearsed their parts after the actors and sound artists were through. "When we got into pre-recording the drama portions, we would leave holes [for the music]. Then Gluskin and his crew [wearing headphones] would fill those holes with live bridges of around five to ten seconds worth of music. The music had to be done live because the Musicians Union had a high recording scale, and doing it live matched our budget."

Auto-Lite and its agency man Tom Maloney both switched to Cecil & Presbrey Advertising. Lewis flew to Chicago each 13-weeks to pow-wow on upcoming shows and stars. The four years he worked *SUSPENSE* were cordial ones, and he felt that the agency was essentially happy to leave creative matters in his hands, aware of Lewis's vast experience and solid reputation.

The sponsor still exerted an overall influence however. There were the traditional season openers which were always tense stories about road safety. And the ad agency suggested a shift in emphasis. When Lewis returned for the 1951-52 season the tone of the stories was augmented by many real life crime cases adapted for radio ("you are about to hear a story based on life"), along with the regular flow of original scripts and adaptations.

Lewis said, "The agent and client felt it was limiting to just [stay with straight] mysteries. We should explore outside the realm of mystery. 'Ordeal in Donner Pass' was factual but a very suspenseful story. So was our story about Jesse James and his brothers." Interestingly Bill Spier, though all praise for Elliott Lewis, was one who didn't enjoy the true report approach, opining, "To me, fiction is [preferable] and always stronger, and much more interesting."

Richard Pedicini was appointed head writer, and Lewis was happy to keep experimenting. There were some double shows like "The Mystery of Edwin Drood" and even a two-part adaptation of Shakespeare's "Othello." Indeed by middle age *SUSPENSE* occasionally resembled the old *Columbia Workshop* in its willingness to stretch. There were several plays set to musical styles, from folk songs to jazz. Lewis said, "These were special plays like when we did 'Frankie and Johnny,' 'The Wreck of the Old '97' and others."

As the budget shrank from \$7,000 per show to just \$3,000 by 1953-54, various movie stars were still happy to appear on the famous theatre of thrills, although it was apparent that Lewis now re-used many of them over and over. Several were clients of agent-packager Don Sharp. Herbert Marshall, Joseph Cotten, Richard Widmark, John Hodiak and Jeff Chandler were heard various times, always delivering fine performances. Most of them were artists who began in radio and retained an ongoing affection for the sound medium.

Lewis was able to attract some actors on the way up, young stars like Tony Curtis, Richard Basehart and Robert Wagner. Others were on the way down from their 1940s heights like Tyrone Power, William Powell and Charles Boyer but remained respected star names. And radio's top comedian Jack Benny made several delightful appearances in lighter shows for Elliott Lewis, who had appeared as an actor on the comic's older shows. Benny's deft touch for light comedy enhanced his roles which ranged from a mild piano tuner in "Murder in G-Flat" to a man from Mars in "Plan X."

*SUSPENSE* lasted a surprisingly long time for a sponsored show in the new television age. Many network radio shows fell victim to the rapid onslaught of television, and were canceled starting with the 1950-51 season. Auto-Lite's *SUSPENSE* managed to last until mid-1954, when Tom Maloney recommended dropping sponsorship, and by then it was already operating on a reduced budget. Lewis recalled, "The orchestra went from fifteen pieces down to nine, although they still managed to get a lot of 'noise' from them!" The final Auto-Lite production was "A Terribly Strange Bed" on June 7, 1954. The relationship had been a happy and prolific one.

CBS, hoping to find a new sponsor, kept the show on as a sustainer for the first time in seven years. Gone were the movie stars, and now the show's hardy band of long-time supporting actors took on the lead parts, making *SUSPENSE* sound rather like interchangeable episodes of *ESCAPE*. Elliott

Lewis stayed on for six more shows (mostly new productions of earlier stories) until July 20th, then he moved to CBS Television to produce *Climax!*

## **After Lewis, the Bill**

The show was awaiting official cancellation, and Program Vice President Bill Froug stepped in. He went back East for “a meeting on the future of non-sponsored programming” with his immediate superior Howard Barnes. In trying to save *SUSPENSE* from the chopping block he offered to slash the budget to “around \$1,000 a show. Already \$1,000 a week could thus be saved.” (In current US dollars, \$1000 in 1954 is about \$10,000 today).

Beyond the budget figures, the Hollywood board still needed convincing and the threat of imminent cancellation remained. Froug stuck to his gut feeling that *SUSPENSE*’s reputation with its loyal listeners was still strong enough to warrant keeping it on the air a while longer. He sought a credible new producer-director and Norman Macdonnell got the nod. “Norman was a staff producer-director, and he’d done a marvelous job with *ESCAPE*, a really first rate half hour drama series,” said Froug. “We all liked Norman’s work.” Macdonnell’s name had been given a further boost over the preceding two years with his consistently fine work on the outstanding western show *GUNSMOKE* which had recently been taken on by sponsor Liggett & Myers for L&M Filters. Macdonnell succeeded Elliott Lewis and completed three shows but *SUSPENSE* was paused on August 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Following seven weeks where the show itself was in a state of “suspense,” a new sustained run commenced on September 30<sup>th</sup> and the series again featured the many Hollywood radio actors who kept the art alive on all the network’s 1950s shows. Loyal CBS listeners got used to hearing endless appearances by familiar voice talents like Virginia Gregg, Bill Conrad, Hans Conried, Joe Kearns, Lillian Buyeff, Ben Wright, Larry Dobkin, Harry Bartell, Charlotte Lawrence, Parley Baer and John Dehner.

Froug had doggedly stuck to his guns and won this round. He knew radio was declining and “was on the way out” but he remained a major enthusiast. He had started in CBS publicity and sold scripts for *ROCKY JORDAN* and *JEFF REGAN, INVESTIGATOR*. After graduating to directing *ROMANCE* and *HALLMARK PLAYHOUSE* he moved into an executive role in 1952, and became the West Coast VP in charge of programs in 1955. He knew there was a group of people who truly preferred working in radio, and he was one of

them. "Most of us had no driving desire to get into television. Radio was fun and it gave you the freedom to fail, and we could try things, experiment. And I think that's the essence of any creative process, the freedom to fail."

Macdonnell did a professional job directing a further twelve shows, again using many remakes of older scripts like "Chicken Feed," "Rave Notice" (featuring a scenery-chewing *tour de force* by Hans Conried) and the classic chiller "On a Country Road." But *GUNSMOKE* was in pre-production, gearing up for its premier as a television show and Macdonnell had to leave *SUSPENSE* once the triple duties of directing radio's *ROMANCE* and both the radio and TV versions of *GUNSMOKE* took up all his available time.

So Froug brought in British-born writer Antony Ellis to take over. Ellis, a former actor, had written many scripts for CBS dramatic shows since 1949 including *SUSPENSE*, *ESCAPE* and *ROMANCE*. Ellis was prolific in both writing original stories and adapting many famous literary classics, and he added to his skill set by producing and directing a run of *Escape* shows in Norm Macdonnell's absence. (Radio Western buffs particularly admire Ellis's brief but memorable 1958 series *FRONTIER GENTLEMAN*.)

Solidly professional 1950s talents like Antony Ellis and Norman Macdonnell suited the smaller medium radio had inevitably become by early 1955. It was no longer a showcase for florid, spectacular all-star shows, and the era of colorful "name" radio directors like Orson Welles, even Bill Spier, were becoming a distant memory. All the big names, and importantly the big bucks, had moved to the hot medium of TV, which had definitively won the affections of the mass audience. Antony Ellis might not have been as "out there" as an Arch Oboler or Norman Corwin who put their names on their own shows. But he was a reliable professional and he produced a long run of shows that were still solid mysteries. He was able to do many new productions of his older scripts first heard on *ESCAPE* and *ROMANCE* (strong and varied stories like "The Cave," "Zero Hour," "I Saw Myself Running," "The Game" and many more) and he contributed a raft of memorable new stories like "The Music Lovers" and "Once a Murderer."

By 1956, when full sponsors had deserted radio, commercial time was being sold to individual advertisers for 60 and 30-second spots. Radio entered the new age of "participation" with the few remaining entertainment programs featuring commercial breaks for two or more products, such as a spot for Kent



Micronite Filters followed by a spot for Ex-Lax. It was a whole different vibe to the old days of Truman Bradley's resonant tones enunciating "Schenley and Cresta Blanca Wines."

Bill Froug said that limited number of series was still possible because of a lack of restrictions. He recalled that "the cost for a half hour of sustaining radio at the time was \$900. I remember [within that figure] I had a total budget for the music—an original score and arrangements—of \$150!" For those making radio, it was now a labor of love.

Froug and other CBS executives were realistic yet stayed hopeful of keeping *SUSPENSE*. "It was the pride of the network, and we could all see the end of radio drama coming, we knew it was a given, but we tried hard to keep it going as long as we could."

In the fall of 1956 Antony Ellis was fired by Bill Froug. Froug described Ellis as an underrated and talented author, and a gentleman. "He did a very good job, though not as consistent as Elliott Lewis or Spier had been. Tony could be temperamental and we had our occasional ups and downs. [But] I began to feel Tony Ellis was a better writer than he was a producer-director. We were very concerned about maintaining the quality of *SUSPENSE* and frankly, the shows were becoming inconsistent. Tony was rather uptight and constricted in his personality and the shows sometimes reflected that."

## **Robson to the Rescue**

Desirous of keeping *SUSPENSE*, Froug replaced Ellis by appointing one of radio's most respected and memorable figures, William N. Robson, who had been working for Froug since January on the revived *CBS RADIO WORKSHOP*, as a producer-director-writer.

A multiple Peabody Award recipient, Bill Robson had mastered radio fully in the great era of the 1930s. Radio drama was a medium Robson owned. By 1956 he had done things in broadcasting that were spoken of with reverence. He was a leading force on *THE COLUMBIA WORKSHOP*, CBS's noble experimental showcase, from 1937. The World War Two series *THE MAN BEHIND THE GUN* was top of his list of high achievements, and his own personal best. He had produced award winning documentaries like the 1943 "Open Letter on Race" that was praised by radio people as far flung as the BBC. Along with his many commercial programs like *THE MAN CALLED X*

and *ESCAPE* he had continued to make prized specials like *Freedom: A Definition*.

His distinguished career was dealt a nasty blow in 1950 when his name appeared in “Red Channels” on false allegations of Communism. This occurred during the height of the paranoid era of “McCarthyism” (the era is labeled as such even though Senator McCarthy’s hearings focused on the military and the State Department, and those hearings did not start until three years later). In the House Un-American Activities Committee (HUAC) relentless investigations into Communist influence in Hollywood that started in the late 1940s, Robson was “named” and effectively blacklisted. He might have been “liberal” in some of his views but he was stunned to be thought of as a subversive. He had worked on numerous patriotic programs, especially *MAN BEHIND THE GUN* during WW2. His work very quickly dried up and he had to sell scripts to CBS under pseudonyms, and even that dried up. He worked on other projects for other networks, but nothing that approached the stature and prominence that his work at CBS had. CBS was known to have harsher “loyalty” rules than the other networks, and did so to reduce the fears of advertisers. For some reason, Robson seemed to be a target of certain CBS executives.

What work he could get took him to Africa and France before he returned to Hollywood. The heat was still on—essentially it was enough then to simply be “named” - and it took his old friend and colleague Ed Murrow to intervene and get him a prestigious assignment. But it wasn’t until CBS executive Daniel O’Shea—a virtual HUAC plant - left in 1955 that Robson was completely cleared and could pick up his career after more than five awful years.

In late 1955, Robson approached Bill Froug for any opportunity. Froug was thrilled to bring him back to radio. It was Robson’s excellent work on various *CBS RADIO WORKSHOP* shows over the next few months that convinced Froug he was the perfect man to revitalize *SUSPENSE*. In a time of endless attrition in dramatic radio, Bill Robson was a throwback to the great era: an old-style broadcast man who was, even more than Spier, possibly the most colorful character in the medium’s history. Froug, a close friend, characterized him in almost Jekyll-Hyde terms.

“[Robson was] essentially a kind-hearted and delightful man. On the one hand he was intelligent, witty, really fun company, a gourmet chef, a robust

lover of life. But the problem with Bill was that he had a personality quirk once he went to work. He became a monster, a *prima donna*, acting like an emperor. He truly enjoyed wielding power in the studio." Before he took over *SUSPENSE* Froug and Robson talked about that famous reputation. "We laughed about it. I said, 'The minute you come to *SUSPENSE* you're going to be impossible to live with.' And he said, 'Yep, I guess I am.'"

Robson was the classic imperfect perfectionist: incredibly bright, and *ergo*, intolerant of anyone who made a mistake or who couldn't instantly grasp a point, or measure up to his own level of intelligence. "Sure enough" recalled Froug, "within the first week he was an S.O.B. again. Same old monster - 'I'm not doing that script!!' or 'I want that writer fired!!' or 'I'm going to use that actor whether you like it or not.' He was like Toscanini in the studio. All the actors loved him away from work, but NOT in the studio. He was either respected or feared. A tyrant."

But as everyone recognized, "The work was good, he [produced] some great shows, but he had to pretend [to himself] that each one was a Broadway opening night. All those grand sweeping hand gestures when he was directing. Despite the fact that I would get mad at him, he was fun. He just had that dramatic flair in both his private and professional life. But his shows were good, and I certainly knew we were on borrowed time."

In late October 1956 Robson's first *SUSPENSE* show went to air. Robson was by now used to the drastically reduced budgets that were "dramatic radio-50s style." And yet he and Froug were out to revitalize the show. Robson was able to attract star names, some still highly visible like Vincent Price who adored radio work, or Joseph Cotten. Others were in the twilight of their careers like Herbert Marshall. All of them respected Robson from past associations and many were accomplished stage and screen actors who maintained a warm feeling for radio performance, even though they were paid scale, the lowest allowable compensation rate.

Robson himself became the one regular "star," as Froug approved him as the show's opening host voice, dubbed "the master of mystery and adventure," the first time a title like that had been used on the show since the days of "The Man in Black." Robson introduced each play in his distinctively gruff voice. He set the tone in a brief and quirky prologue that he wrote each week. As Froug said, "Bill Robson and I laughed about it when we discussed the host

idea, but he lapped it up. When he was recording those intros, believe me, Robson took these as seriously as Sir Laurence Olivier doing Hamlet."

Robson's technical crew including CBS's ever-creative sound men were all twenty year veterans, so they were comfortable and practiced turning out a show like *SUSPENSE*. Robson noted, "By then we had all the tricks we had learned at our fingertips." This was the first time the show was produced entirely on tape, edited on tape, and aired from a tape master.

It wasn't like the glamorous era of radio, with its adrenaline rush of going out live to the nation. The long-time radio people knew that a recorded show, despite tape's technical convenience and ease of use, was always going to sound a little "canned," particularly after Robson's first six months on *SUSPENSE* when the budget finally precluded the use of live music. The final show with the reduced, but still splendid, CBS orchestra was "The Paralta Map."

From the spring of 1957 all CBS's dramatic shows would rely on the growing use of library music cues, robotically cataloged by innumerable titles like "menacing sting." Froug recalled that musician Jerry Goldsmith offered to compose occasional themes and was happy to do them for a token payment of just \$50. But most of the music was from a production library service much of which had been recorded in Europe, under the supervision of veteran CBS music head Lud Gluskin.

Still, everyone adjusted to these realities of unsponsored radio. Each Sunday was *SUSPENSE* day. The cast and crew met for a morning reading and timing. After an on-mike performance, the orchestra and sound effects were rehearsed and then the show was taped. Robson would sit in on the edit session. This procedure lasted for three years, and despite the constrictions of the microscopic budget, many fine shows were produced.

Robson was able to draw on much of his earlier directing and writing work. Various shows he did years earlier on *ESCAPE* were given new life on *SUSPENSE*. Some of those stories were perfectly matched to either show, particularly some of Robson's out and out scariest productions like "Three Skeleton Key," the classic tale of ravenous ship's rats at loose in a lighthouse, or "A Shipment of Mute Fate" with its tense hunt for a deadly snake hidden somewhere on a passenger liner.

He was able to use not only the cream of Hollywood's radio voices but also many of his old New York actors, often on the West Coast for a TV role. East Coasters like Joe De Santis, Karl Swenson and Bill Quinn acted alongside West Coast talents like Larry Dobkin and John Dehner on *SUSPENSE*. This gave his shows a unique sound all their own. Robson's old colleague Sam Pierce, who had worked with him back in the early '30s on *CALLING ALL CARS*, turned up on many shows in small roles. Robson may have been occasionally tyrannical in the studio but his loyalty to old cronies was undoubted.

Another Robson specialty was using stars from current Hollywood TV shows as attractions. Lloyd Bridges from *Sea Hunt*, Raymond Burr from *Perry Mason* and Robert Horton from *Wagon Train* were a few. Newcomers were also given a chance, like unknown DeForrest Kelley, who ten years later would become famous as "Bones" on *Star Trek*. And the age old *SUSPENSE* tradition of casting against type was maintained with satirist Stan Freberg, musician Ray Noble, and tenor-comedian Dennis Day all cast in tensely dramatic roles.

In all, Robson's *SUSPENSE* series managed to bring back the feeling of radio as something exciting and with a touch of the elite, even on its cut-to-the-bone budget. At this time, CBS dramatic radio was only heard on Sundays in the afternoon and early evening. Shows like *GUNSMOKE* and other westerns, and the longest lasting of the crime shows, *YOURS TRULY*, *JOHNNY DOLLAR*, accompanied *SUSPENSE* in those last months of audio magic before the age of the disc jockey and sports were virtually all that could be dialed up.

The end, predicted a few months earlier in trade publications, came on August 23, 1959. The final Hollywood show was a second production of "Headshrinker," written by Robson and, fittingly in terms of *SUSPENSE* history, starring Agnes Moorehead. A week later *SUSPENSE* originated from CBS on 52<sup>nd</sup> Street in Manhattan, where it remained until the series ended three years later.

As Robson bitterly recalled of that period, "They moved [*SUSPENSE*] from the West Coast to a New York production, in order to save \$80 in sound effects technician fees. I have no comment on the quality of the show from that time on." Robson declined an offer to move to Manhattan but, unable to give up the medium that was in his blood, he continued to write scripts for the show.

## The End of *Suspense* and Radio Drama, 1959-1962

*SUSPENSE* was now back in New York where it had begun almost twenty years before. According to Bruno Zirato, Jr., the second of the New York *SUSPENSE* directors, the real reason for moving the show was, "The West Coast CBS production set-up had no director on staff at the time. [Robson] was a freelancer. I was on staff, so they didn't have to pay me to do it."

The show was still good but it sounded like a smaller production from this point onward. It lost that distinctive Hollywood sound of the Bill Robson years: there would be virtually no star names anymore (the biggest were Kevin McCarthy, a young actor known for his role in the film *Invasion of the Body Snatchers*, and Jim Backus, who had recently become more widely known because of his voicing of cartoon character *Mr. Magoo*, despite a prior notable resume of character and comedic acting). *SUSPENSE* reverted to its total reliance on nearly-anonymous old radio pros, like in the Antony Ellis period of 1955-56.

The first producer-director of the New York shows was Paul Roberts, a stage veteran with long experience in Chicago and Broadway plays who turned to radio production. He had been appointed "creative director of the Columbia Broadcasting System's radio division" and was the top man on the East Coast in 1956-57 when *THE CBS RADIO WORKSHOP* did alternating Hollywood-New York broadcasts. Roberts was responsible for some splendid *Workshop* productions like "The Ex-urbanites" and a two-part version of the science fiction saga "The Space Merchants."

His first *SUSPENSE* was "A Matter of Execution," airing at 5:30 on Sunday evening. The New York productions were highly professional and well-acted shows, but the budget was now slashed even further to meet the harsh economies of keeping radio drama on the air at this point. Zirato said, "The network started reducing its coverage of everything," and despite the budget reaching its lowest figure yet, "they [still] considered *SUSPENSE* and *JOHNNY DOLLAR* expensive shows."

Although the show had moved to New York the first series still used the familiar Hollywood voice of George Walsh who had recorded a standard introduction which would be recognizable to long-time listeners and which could be slotted on to the start of each show. His edgily deep voice breathed "And now, another tale well calculated to keep you in .... suspense." Then the

New York staff announcer Stuart Metz introduced the story and its leading players.

During Roberts' run as director, he was able to use his then-wife as a lead on five shows. She was billed as Ellen McRae, and was by then a seasoned dancer and actress. Years later she won the Best Actress Oscar as Ellen Burstyn for her starring performance in the 1974 Scorsese movie *Alice Doesn't Live Here Anymore*. (Along with 1940s and 1950s actor Thomas Mitchell, Burstyn won a Tony, Oscar, and an Emmy, the only *SUSPENSE* performers to do so.)

Gone were the big orchestras of the classic era. CBS now paid for a large music cue library which had been in use for the last two years of the Hollywood shows. The long-time New York music supervisor in charge of the library cuts was Ethel Huber who noted each cue and oversaw each show for musical content. She was married to actor Harold Huber, familiar as a gangster in 1930s Hollywood movies (he even acted in some early Spier *SUSPENSE* shows in 1943) who eventually became a prolific writer. He contributed four scripts to *SUSPENSE* at the start of the 1959 New York era, before he tragically died in the fall of that year following surgery.

The top talents of New York were on call, veteran actors whose radio work often stretched back to the late 1930s. Such familiar voices as Ralph Bell, John Gibson, Paul McGrath, Bernard Grant, Rosemary Rice, Santos Ortega and Rita Lloyd enhanced the shows with their skills. Zirato found these actors "Generally extremely easy to get along with. They are people of talent, often filled with nervous energy but mostly people who [exhibited] a *joie de vivre*. Occasionally one of them might have been difficult, but no more so than [any creative] painter or musician."

Sixty five editions were produced and directed by Paul Roberts. *SUSPENSE* looked like it was finished for good when the series ended on November 27, 1960. But seven months later, when CBS in Hollywood canceled the radio *GUNSMOKE* after the show of June 18, 1961, *SUSPENSE* was revived for a final 15 month run and all further shows were reduced to 25 minutes. Like a slightly withered phoenix, *SUSPENSE* hit the air again for its final marathon on June 25 with the story "Call Me at Half Past." Bruno Zirato, Jr. was appointed the producer-director. "It was my availability probably, rather than my talent. I was on staff and I had been doing a lot of soap operas and other dramas. By that point, we had just three hours to prepare the stories for

recording. There was simply no time for subtleties of direction.” He relied heavily on the New York radio talent pool. “I just hired actors I knew who were experienced and had done years of character roles. There was no time anymore to take a young actor [who didn’t know radio], and spend time on characterization or anything like that. I had to emphasize speed of production.”

The shows were recorded on quarter inch tape on an Ampex machine, pre-recorded between a week and two weeks prior to air date. Zirato recalled, “Rehearsals were kept as brief as was possible.” By then, studio time, technicians’ time and the actors’ time was at a premium, which suited the 1960s radio veterans who were now making as much or more money on quick one hour voice-over bookings for TV commercials as they did on radio dramatic work.

“We did only one show per sitting. There was just no time for any changes anymore. The actors were that good. Of course we had to use the CBS library of music, recorded in Europe by various composers who [if they were under contract] sometimes used a different name for the library composition. It was stock music, but much of it was quite good.” The New York productions added the music as the actors were performing, with skilled technicians who used a four piece set-up, according to Zirato: “Two turntables and two tape machines to get all the cues and cross fades smoothly.”

Directors like Roberts and Zirato had a few writers who they could rely on to deliver scripts that required virtually zero changes. The writers were paid \$350 per script (\$3,250 in today’s US dollars, small in comparison to the pay for television scripts at the time). Such authors as Allan Sloane, Peter Fernandez and Walter Black contributed various stories while proven Hollywood veterans like Jack Johnstone and the great Bill Robson sent scripts to New York.

Among some of Robson’s new scripts were new performances of stories from he presented when he was the producer, like “The City that Was” or his own “Night on Red Mountain.” Still others were “let’s hear ‘em again” versions of his venerable *ESCAPE* classics like “The Country of the Blind,” “Leiningen versus the Ants” and “A Shipment of Mute Fate.” They were simply fine mystery-adventure stories always good for one more airing.



Robson even contributed a couple that are digs at his nasty bout with the blacklist. "Date Night" features a father character who is positively McCarthy-esque, while "Breakthrough" is a tense anti-communist story about people seeking refuge in West Berlin during construction of the Wall.

Zirato said, "We didn't have time anymore for re-writes. I was doing *JOHNNY DOLLAR* and a soap opera at the same time, and we used good radio writers who didn't 'prolix-itize.' The biggest mistake a radio writer could make then was submitting an overly wordy script."

*SUSPENSE* almost resembled treadmill production by now. It was very much left up to the actors and their total professionalism. Roberts and Zirato had known the great New York radio artists for years, and this familiarity precluded the need for time-consuming auditions. Each of their specialties was well known to the directors.

Zirato noted, "The cast was chosen eclectically by me. If I wanted a great deep menacing Russian I knew I could get it from Danny Ocko. If I wanted a good Frenchman I'd just get Guy Sorel. We were so tight for time." At a read through, instead of a long discussion on motivation or interpretation of a character, as was the norm years before, Zirato found himself saying to actor Robert Dryden, "'Bob, do you remember that funny little cab driver you did two weeks ago on *JOHNNY DOLLAR*? Give me that voice again will you.'"

Mainly it was the relentless push for speed that Zirato remembered. There wasn't much in the way of editing: "We'd throw a music cue in here, or delete a long sound cue there. The only time we took any extra time on sound was for a microphone effect like a filtered voice, or tape echo. Just no time at all... ever!! Get it on, get it off. I always taped the dress rehearsal because sometimes it was magnificent. The performance afterwards sometimes couldn't match it, so the 'dress' went to air."

Zirato's final *SUSPENSE* was "That Real Crazy Infinity" which was heard on May 27, 1962. He left for a new television career, producing the enormously popular Goodson-Todman quiz show *To Tell the Truth*. He recalled, "I had nothing to do with radio after that."

His replacement as producer-director was Fred Hendrickson who handled the final eighteen shows in the series. Zirato noted, "Hendrickson was a technician, an engineer and he suddenly wanted to go into production." He

took over with a show entitled "Stand In for Murder." The announcer now was Art Hannes.

In all 128 shows were produced in the final low budget New York years. On September 30, 1962 the final *SUSPENSE* story, "Devilstone," was broadcast and at the end there was no mention that the show was being heard for its final time. It was also the date of the final *JOHNNY DOLLAR*, and again there was no indication the fabulous insurance investigator was breathing his last. But that was standard industry practice by then: the same thing had happened with the last *GUNSMOKE* show, its avid listeners simply expecting a new show with Matt, Chester, Kitty and Doc the following week...a show that, like another episode of *SUSPENSE*, never came.

## It's Not Really Over

As the cliché goes, it was the end of an era. "9-30-62" is often referred to as "the day radio died," but in truth, it didn't. There were healthy runs of new East Coast productions like *THEATER FIVE* which remade a few of the recent *SUSPENSE* scripts. There were small productions like *MATTHEW SLADE*, revivals of Arch Oboler's scripts in 1964, the decades-long *HEARTBEAT THEATER* from Hollywood, and a flurry of activity in the Seattle area via an energetic radio lover named Jim French whose 1970s series *ADVENTURES OF HARRY NILE* and *IMAGINATION THEATER* are popular among radio fans through their last broadcasts in Seattle about a decade ago. (French even had a tie to *SUSPENSE* when he worked in the late 1950s at CBS as a script editor).

The early 1970s had a nostalgia boom, which included the emergence of "revival radio" with Elliott Lewis's Hollywood production *THE ZERO HOUR*, closely followed by Hi Brown, the veteran producer famous for *INNER SANCTUM MYSTERIES*, who began a long-running East Coast revival of audio drama with *THE CBS RADIO MYSTERY THEATER*. At the end of the 1970s radio pioneers like Fletcher Markle and Elliott Lewis - who still had vast affection for the lost art - collaborated on *SEARS RADIO THEATRE* and a large contingent of aging but still capable radio actors from Hans Conried to Virginia Gregg were overjoyed to be working for virtually pennies in the old medium they steadfastly hoped would return.

All of this occurred as the hobby of radio show collecting had grown from a few tape swappers of the late 1960s into a trading frenzy of buying groups and tape and LP sellers in the 1970s. Thousands of shows from radio's golden

age were unearthed and circulated, and the radio craze as we buffs know it has had a further boost in the digital age. *SUSPENSE* didn't completely fade from view, and in some ways it seems more popular now than ever.

Radio as a dramatic form was simply the inevitable victim of an ever-changing media landscape and the realities of business economics.

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# SUSPENSE RADIO Log (CBS)

*Cast credits with the roles each actor played were determined through careful listening to each show, limited information gleaned from extant scripts (cast & crew pages appear intermittently only from May 1947, then regularly from 1950-59), and scattered information in trade reviews, newspaper items, and various issues of The National Radio Artists Directory.*

*The word “unknown” precedes the character name played by unidentified actors, and a question mark (?) follows an actor’s name if it is an “educated guess.” As confirmations are found for unknown cast members, this document will be updated. Some attributions in previous catalog listings (e.g., SPERDVAC Archives, Radio GoldIndex) are questionable and are noted.*

*The first three years are the most problematic for identifying small roles, but by 1945 Spier was mainly using a regular repertory company that was easily recognizable to hardcore SUSPENSE-holics, even without the scripts.*

*It is probable that 90% of the actors in SUSPENSE’s 20-year run have been identified and are herewith credited for posterity. With such a large amount of information, there will be inevitable mistakes and these will be corrected in future updates.*

*If any radio historians have extra cast information and / or script cast pages, particularly for the first four years, please contact me.*

Thanks to many of my colleagues in the radio collecting community, especially Dr. Joe Webb (whose researching skills are matched by his talents at formatting my dry facts into an attractive document), John Scheinfeld (the pioneer researcher of Bill Spier and his radio work), prolific historian Karl Schadow (as insanely dedicated to crediting uncredited radio actors as myself), Don Ramlow (a fellow *SUSPENSE* buff who is researching his own book on the show), and such veteran collectors as Skip Craig, Don Aston, Ken Greenwald (who did the finest disc to tape dubbing in the pre-digital world of radio fandom), John Tefteller, Dick Mullins, Larry & John Gassman & Myron Patrick King.

## KEY:

- Titles highlighted in **yellow** (mostly after May 1947) are shows for which scripts with front cast sheets are in my archive.
- Starring movie actors are indicated IN CAPITAL LETTERS, with support cast in lower case.
- Titles accompanied by a red asterisk are missing shows. (A single \* indicates a show that is missing, although a different production of the same script is available. A double \*\* indicates a show produced only once and which is still missing).

# FORECAST: SUSPENSE

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## THE LODGER (7-22-40 AUDITION)

Produced and directed by Charles Vanda, for *FORECAST* (CBS, Hollywood origination).

Author: Marie Belloc-Lowndes

Adaptation by Harold Medford

Music by Wilbur Hatch

HERBERT MARSHALL (Mr. Sleuth & Narrator), EDMUND GWENN (Robbie Bunting), Lurene Tuttle (Daisy), Noreen Gamill (Ellen Bunting), Edmond Stevens (Hitchcock), others

Thomas Freebairn-Smith (Announcer)

*A tenant constantly quotes from the bible and spouts repressive values with which he lectures everyone, but is he London's notorious serial killer?*

NOTE: This story was produced twice more, on 12-14-44 and for a one-hour production on 2-14-48

*SUSPENSE* finally bows, after six weeks of press build-up, on June 17<sup>th</sup>, 1942, at 9:30 p.m. originating from CBS studios in New York

The signature musical theme consisting of oboe and bells was composed by Bernard Hermann and used on the opening & closing of all shows over twenty years. The network announcer is Dan Seymour, and actor Berry Kroeger narrates the first series.

Charles Vanda, who created the show and did much to develop and push the series concept in the two years since he directed the audition, is appointed the Producer-Director of *SUSPENSE*.

# SUSPENSE

## SUMMER 1942

Wednesdays, 9:30-10:00 pm ET
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### THE BURNING COURT (6-17-42) #1

Author: John Dickson Carr

Adaptation by Harold Medford

CHARLIE RUGGLES (Gaudan St. Croix, aka Tom Simpson), Julie Haydon (Marie d'Aubray, aka Marie Stephens), Irene Winston (Myra Corbett), Berry Kroeger (Narrator / Mark Debar / Freddie / Radio voice), Bob Emery (Doctor Weldon), Ted Osborn (Ted Stephens), Ted de Corsia? (Captain Brennan)

CBS Staff announcer: John Tillman

*At a dinner party a murderer is named. It is the same name as a famed poison-killer from the 17<sup>th</sup> century who was burned as a witch.*

NOTES: This script, reworked, was produced again on 6-14-45

Next week's show is announced as "The Life of Nellie James"

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### WET SATURDAY (6-24-42) #2

Author: John Collier

Adaptation by Harold Medford

CLARENCE DERWENT (Frederick Princey), Berry Kroeger (Sergeant Yancy / Constable Mountain), Joan Lorrington (Millicent Princey), others unknown as Mrs. Princey, George Princey, Captain Smollett, Phone Operator

CBS Staff announcer: Ed Fleming

*The Princey family calmly attempt to cover-up involvement in a murder.*

NOTES: This script was also produced on 12-16-43, 12-19-47 & 3-20-48

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### \*\* THE ADVENTURES OF NELLIE JAMES OR THE LIFE OF NELLIE JAMES (7-1-42) #3

Author: Harold Medford

JEANNE CAGNEY (Nellie), others unknown

*The story of a woman who killed her father and stepmother, based on the real-life Lizzie Borden axe-murder case.*

NOTES: This show, at one point intended as the first broadcast, is unavailable for review with no recording known

This was the first original story presented on *SUSPENSE*

Loretta Young, originally announced for the starring role, was replaced by Jeanne Cagney. The rest of the cast is unknown

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### \*\* ROPE (7-8-42) #4

Author: Patrick Hamilton (his 1929 play)

Adaptation by Harold Medford

Cast included Richard Widmark, others unknown

*Two youths commit a murder and sadistically tease the father of the victim*

NOTE: Melvyn Douglas was at first announced for the lead role.

This show, originally slated for a July 1<sup>st</sup> airing, is unavailable for review with no recording known.

It is a fictional version of the real-life Leopold-Loeb case, and was later made into a 1948 feature film by Alfred Hitchcock.

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**\*\* THE WITNESS ON THE WEST-  
BOUND TRAIN (7-15-42) #5**

Author: Harold Medford

Cast is unknown.

*Detectives aboard a train must find the  
killer of three passengers.*

NOTES: This story is not related to a  
similarly titled 1937 Universal movie  
mystery, *The Westbound Limited*.

This show is unavailable for review, with  
no recording known

After five shows Producer-Director  
Charles Vanda leaves CBS for an army  
posting, and doesn't return until 1945.

William Spier becomes *SUSPENSE*  
producer-editor (and eventually the  
director), with 277 subsequent shows to  
his credit.

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**\* FINISHING SCHOOL (7-22-42) #6**

Author: Ethel Lina White (her novel "The  
Third Eye")

Adaptation by Harold Medford

MARGO (Caroline Watts), others  
unknown

*An all-female cast in a story of students  
holding evening seances, one of which  
predicts a murder.*

NOTES: This script was also produced on  
12-30-43.

This show is unavailable for review, with  
no recording known.

With this show John Dietz becomes the  
studio director.

Series author Harold Medford was re-  
called to the West Coast after this script, to  
honour his picture contract at MGM. The  
next show announced was to have been a

new performance of the audition story,  
"The Lodger," but that show was not  
produced until 12-14-44.

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**\* PHILOMEL COTTAGE (7-29-42) #7**

Author: Agatha Christie ("Love from a  
Stranger")

Adaptation by Harold Medford

Eric Dressler (Gerald Martin), Alice Frost  
(Alix Martin), Alfred Shirley (George),  
Dick Widmark (Dick), Berry Kroeger  
(Narrator),

*A newlywed suspects her husband is  
planning her demise.*

NOTE: This script was also produced on  
10-7-43 & 12-12-46.

This show is unavailable for review, with  
no recording known.

8-5-42: an apparent pre-emption
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**\* SUSPICION (8-12-42) #8**

Author: Dorothy L. Sayers

Adaptation by Peter Barry

PEDRO DE CORDOBA (Hubert  
Mummery), Helen Lewis, Berry Kroeger,  
others unknown

*A husband suspects he has been poisoned.  
Was it his cook or his wife?*

NOTES: This script was later produced on  
2-10-44, and as a one hour show on 4-3-48

This show is unavailable for review, with  
no recording known.

From 1939, station KIRO - Seattle's CBS affiliate - recorded many shows originating from New York and L. A. With war clouds looming in Europe, both the concept of historical preservation and the need for programming which might potentially
---

replace suddenly delayed shows were deemed important. And so the Class A line feed was preserved daily on 16" acetate discs, and included news and current events broadcasts, along with runs of various dramatic shows like *THE WHISTLER* and *SUSPENSE* (which was air-checked from 8-19-42 to 10-7-43, for a total of 44 of 50 broadcasts). After a dozen years in storage at Puget Sound, the discs were gifted to Washington U's School of Communications in early 1957. A few months later CBS granted the University funding to transfer the collection to tape (Frank Rosin did much of this dubbing), then the original KIRO discs were donated to The National Archives.

### **THE CAVE OF ALI BABA (8-19-42) #9**

Author: Dorothy L. Sayers (story "The Adventurous Exploit of the Cave of Ali Baba")

Adaptation by Peter Lyon

Romney Brent (Lord Peter Wimsey aka Joseph Rogers), Berry Kroeger (Narrator), William Malten (Number One), Ara Gerald (The Lady), Cathleen Cordell, Victor Beecroft, Roland Bottomley, J. W. Austin, William Podmore, Ian Martin

CBS network announcer: Ed Fleming

*A famous detective goes undercover when investigating a criminal society of saboteurs.*

NOTES: Robert Lewis Shayon is guest studio director, subbing for John Dietz who was unavailable. The show opens with a PSA for Victory Food specials.

This is the earliest surviving show produced by Bill Spier, and it already demonstrates his style incorporating his

deep knowledge of music, with distinctive bridges linked to the drama.

Originally announced for this date was "One Hundred in the Dark," which wasn't produced until 9-30

*SUSPENSE* is pre-empted August 26 for a Paramount Pictures all-star special, a preview of Irving Berlin's Holiday Inn.

### **THE HITCH-HIKER (9-2-42) #10**

Author: Lucille Fletcher

ORSON WELLES (Ronald Adams), Berry Kroeger (Narrator), others

*A man drives cross-country and, to his increasing consternation, keeps seeing the same mysterious hitch-hiker.*

NOTE: The first of various appearances by Orson Welles who had known Spier for a decade since *THE MARCH OF TIME* series.

This script was originally written for CBS's *LADY ESTHER PRESENTS ORSON WELLES* and performed on the show of 11-17-41. Soon after this *SUSPENSE* version, it was performed again by Welles, due to popular demand, on *THE PHILIP MORRIS PLAYHOUSE* on 10-16-42, and four years later for *THE PABST MERCURY SUMMER THEATRE*, on 6-21-46.

Author Lucille Fletcher was married to the music composer Bernard Hermann, who recommended her writing talent to Vanda in the series' developmental period. This was the first genuine classic performed on *SUSPENSE*, and was written in the first-person singular narration style Welles favored. A year later this would become the signature narrative style of the show.

*SUSPENSE* is pre-empted on September 9, for an address by W. Averill Harriman, Lend-Lease Administrator

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**THE KETTLER METHOD (9-16-42)  
#11**

Author: Peter Barry

GLORIA STUART (Claire Winton), John Gibson (Leslie Winton), Roger DeKoven (Doctor Kettler), Winfield Hoeny (Kato), Ralph Smiley (Caffrey / Arturo Alvarez), Martha Falkner (Miss Carter), Guy Repp (Dr. Morrissey / Radio Voice), Berry Kroeger (Narrator)

*A young woman is threatened by escapees from a New England asylum for the insane.*

NOTE: At the end of this show there is a PSA for the 10% Club

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**A PASSAGE TO BENARES (9-23-42)  
#12**

Author: T. S. Stribling

Adaptation by Carrol Case

Horace Braham (Mr. Lowe), Paul Stewart (Pajoli), Berry Kroeger (Hiradus / Judge / Narrator), Alan Hewitt, Guy Repp

*The investigation of the murder of a young bride involves drugs.*

---

**ONE HUNDRED IN THE DARK  
(9-30-42) #13**

Author: Owen M. Johnson

Adaptation by Jacques Anson Finke

Eric Dressler (Peters), Alice Frost (Mrs. Kildare), Ted Osborn (Quinney), Berry Kroeger (Narrator), Helen Lewis, Paul Luther, Ian Martin, Joan Shea, Frank Readick, Stefan Schnabel, Henriette Kaye

*A society hostess is robbed of a piece of jewellery during a party, and she demands the ring be returned before any guest can leave.*

NOTE: This script was also produced on 11-20-47

The initial summer series ends. The show is off-air until 10-27-42  
["Unusually heavy" listener demand, by both mail and phone, results in *SUSPENSE* being saved from cancellation by CBS programming head Davidson Taylor, and scheduled for the Fall season]

# **SUSPENSE**

## **FALL 1942 TO 1943**

The Fall season commences, scheduled on Tuesdays 9:30-10:00 pm ET, sustaining

Mystery author John Dickson Carr is contracted as the series' script writer. John Dietz returns as the director. Actor Ted Osborn becomes the show's signature narrator voice, and Bernard Hermann continues as composer & conductor.

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### **THE LORD OF THE WITCHDOCTORS (10-27-42) #14**

Author: John Dickson Carr (from his BBC play)

Nicholas Joy (Richardson), Ted Osborn (Bill Harris / Signature Voice), Brad Barker (Nero the Lion's roar), others

*In wartime Africa a courier pretends to be a witch doctor, but a British diplomat is onto the ruse.*

---

### **THE DEVIL IN THE SUMMER HOUSE (11-3-42) #15**

Author: John Dickson Carr (from his BBC play)

Martin Gabel (Joe Parker), Ted Osborn (Signature Voice), Arthur Vinton, Alice Frost, Lesley Woods?, others

*An attorney gets a letter which solves a suicide mystery from years ago.*

NOTE: This Tuesday broadcast was at 10:00-10:30 p.m. for one time only

The opening of this show has the Narrator reading a dictionary definition of "suspense"

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### **WILL YOU MAKE A BET WITH DEATH? (11-10-42) #16**

Author: John Dickson Carr

Michael Fitzmaurice (Bob Penderel), Lesley Woods (Betty), Nicholas Joy (John Destry), Ted de Corsia (Police sergeant), Charles Slattery (Inspector Mullen), Ted Osborn (Signature Voice)

*An uncle bets his nephew \$25,000 that he won't survive the next six months.*

NOTE: For this show, Marx B. Loeb directed (subbing for John Dietz who was unavailable)

This script was also produced, in an expanded adaptation for a one-hour format, on 1-31-48

On 11-11-42, William Spier and singer-vocal coach Kay Thompson are married in Juarez, Mexico

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### **MENACE IN WAX (11-17-42) #17**

Author: John Dickson Carr

Joseph Julian (Rogers), Ted Osborn (Signature Voice), Alfred Shirley, Stefan Schnabel, others

Gasoline rationing PSA at end

*In Madame Tussaud's wax museum journalists uncover a secret code which could affect the war.*

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### **THE BODY SNATCHERS (11-24-42) #18**

Author: John Dickson Carr

Ted Osborn (Signature Voice), others unknown

*The Burke and Hare story about illegal experiments on stolen corpses.*



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## THE BRIDE VANISHES (12-1-42) #19

Author: John Dickson Carr

Hanley Stafford? (Tom Courtney), Lesley Woods (Lucy Courtney), Jack McBryde, Ted Osborn (Signature Voice), others

*Newlyweds visit a Mediterranean island, where a bride once disappeared from a villa balcony.*

NOTES: Hanley Stafford has been credited as playing the husband in this program in various sources over many years, but I just don't hear it. Besides which, this New York production would have clashed with Stafford's regular role of J. C. Dithers on *Blondie*, produced weekly in Hollywood. (I suspect a collector mistook Ted Osborne's signature narration voice for Stafford's, then further errors of attribution followed.)

*SUSPENSE* was pre-empted on December 8 for a political speech by Harold Ickes, Secretary of the Interior

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## TILL DEATH DO US PART (12-15-42) #20

Author: John Dickson Carr

PETER LORRE (Professor Erwin Craft), Alice Frost (Cynthia), Mercedes McCambridge (Lady Randolph), David Gothard (Dr. Craig), Ted Osborn (Signature Voice)

*A husband is insanely jealous of his wife and her male friend.*

NOTES: This script was later produced on the 12-19-48 broadcast of author Carr's radio series *CABIN B-13*

Following the success of Orson Welles in "The Hitchhiker," Lorre was officially noted as the first in a series of famous star

names hired by Spier as part of his ongoing improvements for *SUSPENSE*

---

## TWO SHARP KNIVES (12-22-42) #21

Author: Dashiell Hammett

Adaptation by John Dickson Carr

STU ERWIN (Scott Anderson), Santos Ortega, Mark Smith, Ian Martin, Paul Luther, William Podmore, Berry Kroeger, Mercedes McCambridge?, Ted Osborn (Signature Voice),

*An investigation into the prison death of a jailed but innocent man*

NOTE: This script was also produced on 6-7-45

*SUSPENSE* was pre-empted on December 29 for a CBS special broadcast ("Twelve Crowded Months")

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## NOTHING UP MY SLEEVE (1-5-43) #22

Author: John Dickson Carr

GEORGE COULOURIS (Derek Rolfe), ELISSA LANDI (Dorothy Dale), Ted Osborn (Signature Voice), Joseph Julian, others

*A woman tries to prove her fiancée innocent of a robbery charge.*

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## THE PIT AND THE PENDULUM (1-12-43) #23

Author: Edgar Allan Poe

Adaptation by John Dickson Carr

HENRY HULL (Jean D'Albret), Berry Kroeger (Espila the Inquisitor), Mercedes McCambridge (Beatrice), Alfred Shirley, Luis Van Rooten?, Ted Osborn (Man in Black),

*Poe's famous short story of the Spanish Inquisition, torture and impending death.*

NOTE: This script was also produced on 11-28-47 & 6-7-59. This show marked the first time the regular *SUSPENSE* signature narrator was referred to as The Man in Black, a “name” which remained until March 8, 1945.

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### **THE DEVIL’S SAINT (1-19-43) #24**

Author: John Dickson Carr

PETER LORRE (Count Stefan Kohari), Gertrude Warner (Ilona), Ted Osborn (Man in Black), others

*An overly protective father insists his niece, about to be married, has mental problems in her family history.*

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### **\* DEATH WENT ALONG FOR THE RIDE (1-26-43) #25**

Authors: Henry Denker & Ralph Berkey

RALPH BELLAMY (George Gavery), Ted Osborne, others

*An innocent driver keeps getting hotel reservations and is soon involved with a criminal gang.*

NOTE: This script was also produced on 4-27-44.

This show is unavailable for review, no recording is known

With his wife Kay Thompson contracted to MGM for an important music department position, William Spier began pushing CBS management to move *SUSPENSE* to the West Coast for easy access to film star names. The next three shows originated from KNX in Hollywood on a trial basis. Chief sound man was Berne Surrey, assisted by Becky Barnes, Ralph Cummings, and other staff technicians.

With Spier producing, Ted Bliss became the show’s director in Hollywood.

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### **THE DOCTOR PRESCRIBED DEATH (2-2-43) #26**

Author: J. Donald Wilson

BELA LUGOSI (Dr. Antonio Basile), Lurene Tuttle (Gladys Tanner), Lou Merrill (Morton Hellman / Lt. Davis), Jeanne Bates? (Myra Basile), Ken Christy (Sergeant Rankin), Joe Kearns (Man in Black)

*A mentally unhinged physician intends to prove his dangerous theory about murder.*

NOTES: First of three weeks with *SUSPENSE* originating from Columbia Square in Hollywood. Joseph Kearns was cast as the Coast version of The Man in Black, here trying a little hard to emulate Ted Osborn’s delivery, compared with the more natural voice he adopted later.

Music for the three West Coast shows was composed by Lucien Morawek, with Lud Gluskin conducting the CBS Pacific orchestra.

This script was later produced on the 6-11-44 broadcast of *THE WHISTLER*, a CBS series directed by this story’s author J. Donald Wilson.

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### **\*\* THE HANGMAN WON’T WAIT (2-9-43) #27**

Author: John Dickson Carr

SYDNEY GREENSTREET (Dr. Gideon Fell), Vicki Marsden? (Helen Barton), unknown (Anna), Raymond Lawrence (Warder Harris), Gloria Gordon (Matron), unknown (Colonel Andrews), Joe Kearns (Man in Black), others

*Will an innocent woman hang for a crime she did not commit?*

NOTE: Only the first half of this show is extant

---

**IN FEAR AND TREMBLING (2-16-43) #28**

Author: J. Donald Wilson

MARY ASTOR (Lucia Durant), Fred MacKaye (Gil Durant), Lou Merrill (Dr. Hanby), Jane Morgan (Miss Benson), Ken Christy (Police Capt. Drake), unknown (Beverly), Joe Kearns (Man in Black)

*A mentally unstable wife suspects she will be killed.*

NOTES: The last of three shows originating from Hollywood; for the next seven weeks the show is again produced by Spier from New York before *SUSPENSE* moves permanently to the West Coast, beginning April 13.

This script was earlier produced on *THE WHISTLER* as "Jealousy" on 9-27-42

On 2-17-43 Spier, already planning his full-time move to L. A., quit his freelance script editing assignment on *RADIO READER'S DIGEST*

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**\*\* WILL YOU WALK INTO MY PARLOR? (2-23-43) #29**

Author: John Dickson Carr

GERALDINE FITZGERALD (Mary Sherwood), SIR CEDRIC HARDWICKE (Inspector Brandon), Ted Osborn (Man in Black), unknown (Philip Lester), unknown (The Major),

*A fortune teller is really a Scotland Yard sleuth*

NOTE: Only the first half of this show is extant

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**\* THE NIGHT REVEALS (3-2-43) #30**

Author: Cornell Woolrich

Adaptation by Sigmund Miller

FREDRIC MARCH (Harry Jordan), Ted Osborn (Man in Black), Jackie Kelk?, others

*A pyromaniac is loose and a fire inspector's wife seems to be the culprit.*

NOTES: This script was also produced on 12-9-43, 4-18-46 and 5-26-49.

This show is unavailable for review, with no known recording

A newspaper item announced that the leads were originally to be played by Henry Hull and Constance Bennett

---

**\*\* THE PHANTOM ARCHER (3-9-43) #31**

Author: John Dickson Carr

RALPH BELLAMY, WALTER HAMPDEN, CONSTANCE COLLIER, Muriel Kirkland, Ted Osborn (Man in Black), others

*An investigation into the puzzling bow and arrow death of a woman.*

NOTE: This show is unavailable for review, with no recording known

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**\* CABIN B-13 (3-16-43) #32**

Author: John Dickson Carr

RALPH BELLAMY, Walter Hampden, Ted Osborn (Man in Black), others

*A just married couple honeymoon on a cruise liner but the husband quickly vanishes.*

NOTES: This script was also produced on 11-9-43.

This show is unavailable for review, with no recording known

A spin-off CBS radio series, *CABIN B-13*, aired from 7-5-48 to 1-2-49.

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### **THE CUSTOMERS LIKE MURDER (3-23-43) #33**

Author: John Dickson Carr

ROLAND YOUNG (Gerald Hawkstone), Peggy Conklin (Patricia Phillips), Joseph Julian (Slats Kelly), Arnold Stang? (Louis Miller), Ted Osborn (Man in Black), others

*A light-hearted story of mistaken identity, a mystery writer and criminals*

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### **THE DEAD SLEEP LIGHTLY (3-30-43) #34**

Author: John Dickson Carr

LEE BOWMAN (Wilmot), SUSAN HAYWARD (Molly Carroll), WALTER HAMPDEN (Templeton), Ted Osborn (Man in Black), others

*Was a man killed by his "late" wife?*

NOTE: This script was later produced on the series *CABIN B-13* (12-19-48)

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### **FIRE BURN AND CAULDRON BUBBLE (4-6-43) #35**

Author: John Dickson Carr

PAUL LUKAS (Ludwig Von Arnheim), Alfred Shirley (Howard White), Ted Osborn (Man in Black), others

*A woman in the audience is killed during a performance of Shakespeare's "Macbeth"*

NOTE: Studio technician Robert Sammon was credited on-air.

This was the final show originating from CBS New York, and the final *SUSPENSE* directed by John Dietz

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### **FEAR PAINTS A PICTURE (4-13-43) #36**

Author: Sigmund Miller

NANCY COLEMAN (Julia Powell), Fred MacKaye (Dr. Barrow, alias Ralph Powell), Edwin Maxwell (Harvey Lyons), Beatrice Benaderet (Laura Lyons), Joe Kearns (Man in Black / Lawyer)

*A woman, obsessed with a painting on the wall, has a family history of mental illness.*

NOTE: Starting with this show, *SUSPENSE* is now permanently based in Hollywood, with production by Bill Spier, and direction by Ted Bliss. Lucien Morawek became the full-time composer, with Lud Gluskin conducting the CBS orchestra.

The actors are identified by their roles at the end of this show. Sadly, this practice did not continue.

This script was also produced on 5-3-45\_

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### **THE MOMENT OF DARKNESS (4-20-43) #37**

Author: John Dickson Carr

PETER LORRE (George Ravel / Flamond), WENDY BARRIE (Marjorie Grey), GEORGE ZUCCO (Alec Stevens), unknown (Ken Blake), unknown (Aunt Hester), Hans Conried (Train guard), Joe Kearns (Man in Black)

*Murder somehow occurs during a séance.*

NOTE: Wilbur Hatch conducted the orchestra for this broadcast, subbing for Lud Gluskin.

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## **THE DIARY OF SOPHRONIA WINTERS (4-27-43) #38**

Author: Lucille Fletcher

Sound effects: Berne Surrey

AGNES MOOREHEAD (Sophronia),  
RAY COLLINS (Hiram), Mary Jane  
Croft? (Nurse), Joe Kearns (Man in Black)

*A naïve woman marries a mad man and is imprisoned.*

NOTE: This script was also produced on  
8-17-44 & 8-10-58

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## **DEATH FLIES BLIND (5-4-43) #39**

Author: John Dickson Carr

RICHARD DIX (Fred Onslow), GALE  
PAGE (Monica Vail), Montagu Love  
(Silas Naylor), Wally Maher (Cohen /  
Airport P. A.), Joe Kearns (Man in Black /  
Limo Driver), Hans Conried (German-  
speaking Englishman), John Lake?  
(Michael Shepherd), unknown (Miss Lee  
the Air Hostess), unknown (Barney  
O'Reilly / Englishman #2)

*A mysterious flight over the Atlantic in  
which the pilots disappear.*

NOTES: Actor Montagu Love died aged  
63 on May 17, just two weeks after doing  
this show

Charles Laughton & Elsa Lanchester were  
announced for the next show, but were  
postponed an extra week

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## **MR. MARKHAM, ANTIQUE DEALER (5-11-43) #40**

Author: John Dickson Carr

PAUL LUKAS (Charles & Robert  
Markham), HEATHER ANGEL (Judy  
Ray), BRAMWELL FLETCHER (Ronald  
Gilbert), Joe Kearns (Man in Black /

Cabbie / Inspector Ross), unknown (Trick  
clock voice / Phone Operator)

*A story of blackmail and murder in a  
London curio shop.*

NOTE: This script was also produced on  
6-28-45 & 11-1-58

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## **THE ABC MURDERS (5-18-43) #41**

Author: Agatha Christie (1935 novel)

Adaptation by Bob Tallman with Bill  
Spier

CHARLES LAUGHTON (Alexander  
Bonaparte Cust), ELSA LANCHESTER  
(Miss Lily Marberry), BRAMWELL  
FLETCHER (Franklin Clark), Raymond  
Lawrence (Librarian / Man at newsstand /  
Bartender), Robert Harris (Inspector  
Mackenzie), Hans Conried (Newsboy /  
Train call), unknown (Olivia Asher), Vicki  
Marsden? (Mary Barnard), unknown  
(Louise Clark), unknown (Cameron  
Clark), Joe Kearns (Man in Black / Second  
Newsboy / Butler)

*A serial murderer leaves his signature, the  
first three letters of the alphabet.*

NOTE: This was the first *SUSPENSE*  
script by Robert Tallman, who was a  
*March of Time* writer for Bill Spier in the  
1930s. Tallman would become a regular  
contributor (here, he chose not to include  
Hercule Poirot who was in the source  
novel)

Next week's show is announced as "She  
Overheard Murder Speaking"

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**SORRY, WRONG NUMBER (5-25-43)  
#42**

Author: Lucille Fletcher

Sound: Berne Surrey

AGNES MOOREHEAD (Mrs. Stevenson), Hans Conried (Man on phone), Harry Lang (George), unknown (Operator), Margaret Brayton (Chief Operator / Information), Paula Winslowe (Henchley hospital woman), Joe Kearns (Western Union / Man in Black), Robert Harris? (Sergeant Martin)

*A neurotic woman gets a crossed phone line and overhears a planned murder.*

NOTES: This script would become the most famous in the show's twenty-year history. Working titles included "I'm So Nervous," "She Overheard Murder Talking" and "She Overheard Death Speaking."

The script would go on to be produced an additional seven times on *SUSPENSE* (on 8-21-43, 2-24-44, 9-6-45, 11-18-48, 9-15-52, 10-20-57 & 2-14-60), as well as on a special Decca recording in 1947.

Next week's show was announced as "The Extra Guest"

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**BANQUO'S CHAIR (6-1-43) #43**

Author: Rupert Croft-Cooke

Adaptation by Sigmund Miller

DONALD CRISP (Sir William Brent), JOHN LODER (Arthur Grange), Ian Wolfe (Layne / Servant at Club), Hans Conried (John Bedford), Joe Kearns (Man in Black / Officer Graham), Janet Scott (Aunt Martha Ferguson / May Wakefield), Claire Verdera? (Roberta Stone), Helga Moray? (Hilda), unknown (Opening voice explaining the ending of "Sorry, Wrong Number")

*A policeman holds a ghostly dinner party to which a murderer is invited.*

NOTES: Working titles were "The Extra Guest" and "The Extra Chair."

Show opens with a brief explanation of the previous week's show "Sorry, Wrong Number" and its unintentionally confusing ending.

This script was also produced on 8-3-44 and 3-9-50, and on Spier's *The Philip Morris Playhouse* on 3-25-49

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**FIVE CANARIES IN THE ROOM  
(6-8-43) #44**

Author: John Dickson Carr

LEE BOWMAN (Ronald Denham), ONA MUNSON (Anita), Osa Massen (Fifi LaTour), Joe Kearns (Man in Black / Party guest / Driver), Cy Kendall (Uncle Rufus Denham), Byron Kane (Pearson), Horace Willard? (Uncle Cato), Ted Von Eltz (Inspector Braddock), unknown (Jimmy Westlake), Jack Edwards? (Thomas Evans)

*A man finds a dead body in his room, but when he awakens it has disappeared.*

NOTE: Lee Bowman subbed for the previously announced star Vincent Price

Schedule change to Tuesdays, at 10:00-10:30 pm ET
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**LAST NIGHT (6-15-43) #45**

Author: Cornell Woolrich (*The Red Tide*)

Adaptation by Robert Tallman (unbilled)

KENT SMITH (Gil Blaine), MARGO (Jacqueline Blaine), Earle Ross (Ward), Ruby Dandridge (Leona), Bea Benaderet (Mrs. Burroughs / Miss Robles), Ted Von Eltz? (Charles Marsh), Joe Kearns (Man in

Black / Police Officer), unknown (Jackie Carmen)

*Did a man kill one of his dinner guests?*

NOTE: The first performance was marred by “technical difficulties” and the opening two minutes of the drama weren’t heard in some areas, with staff musician Carol Marsh playing a piano fill until the connection was established.

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### **THE MAN WITHOUT A BODY (6-22-43) #46**

Author: John Dickson Carr

GEORGE ZUCCO (Reverend Arthur Morley), JOHN SUTTON (Dr. Jim Norwood), Joe Kearns (Man in Black & Narration), Raymond Lawrence (Newspaper editor / Henry Emmett), Vicki Marsden (Janice Morley), unknown (Reporter), unknown (Professor Ansmith, aka Carl Heinrich Von Keiss), unknown (George Wellman)

*Villagers on the English coast suspect an invisible murderer.*

NOTES: Following this show John Dickson Carr left the series, having been recalled to England “for Government duty.”

Bernard Hermann, in Hollywood for a film assignment, conducts the orchestra for this and the next several shows

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### **UNCLE HENRY’S ROSEBUSH (6-29-43) #47**

Author: Larry Roman (billed as his first radio play)

AGNES MOOREHEAD (Aunt Julie), ELLEN DREW (Carol Linden), Elliott “Ted” Reid (Paul Linden), Norman Field (Uncle Henry), Joe Kearns (Man in Black)

*A neurotic woman is suspected of killing her husband.*

NOTE: Elliott Reid gets co-starring credit.

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### **THE WHITE ROSE MURDERS (7-6-43) #48**

Author: Cornell Woolrich (*The Death Rose*)

Adaptation by Robert Tallman (unbilled)

MAUREEN O’HARA (Virginia Trowbridge), Fred MacKaye (Terry Riley), unknown (Sally), Mary Jane Croft? (Joan / Mabel the waitress), Garland Moss (Man at Flower Show), unknown (Thief), unknown (Edwards, the White Rose killer), unknown (Police Officer / Sergeant Riley), Jim Bannon (Man in Black / Elevator operator)

*A crazed killer who leaves a white rosebud with each victim is hunted by a detective and his fiancée.*

NOTES: Jim Bannon (NOT Ted Osborne or Berry Kroeger, as noted elsewhere) subbed for Joe Kearns as The Man in Black for ten shows, while Kearns was indisposed.

Following this show, Spier suffered a serious heart attack. While he recuperated, Robert Lewis Shayon came West from New York and filled in for the next three weeks as “Guest Director” while Ted Bliss was on summer vacation. Shayon also assisted on Spier’s production duties.

Pre-empted on July 13 (for the All-Star Baseball Game broadcast)
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### **MURDER GOES FOR A SWIM (7-20-43) #49**

Author: Louis Joseph Vance

Adaptation by Howard Harris (unbilled)

WARREN WILLIAM (Michael Lanyard, alias “The Lone Wolf”), ERIC BLORE (Jamison), Harry Bartell (Bill Hodges),

Lurene Tuttle (Cynthia Waring / Betty Larson), Griff Barnett (Sheriff), unknown (Ralph Clinton), unknown (Rutherford Barnes), Jim Bannon (Man in Black)

*Detective and his valet recall a case of a woman found dead in a swimming pool at a society soiree.*

NOTE: A rare use of established characters from another medium. According to Darryl Shelton this episode doubled as a CBS audition for a radio show based on the Columbia Pictures film series of "The Lone Wolf."

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**THE LAST LETTER OF DR. BRONSON (7-27-43) #50**

Author: Richard Creyke

Adaptation by Leonard St. Clair

LAIRD CREGAR (Dr. Bronson), Walter Kingsford (Dr. Mosher), George Coulouris (Laderne), Helen Vinson (Nurse Ainsley), Harold Huber (Doyle), Ian Wolfe (Mr. Totten), Jim Bannon (Man in Black)

*A doctor with a murder hypothesis sets himself up four times as a potential victim.*

NOTES: This script was also produced on 8-15-46 and 11-4-54

Ted Von Eltz, announced the previous week as an actor in this show, did not appear. Unusually for this period, all the actors receive on-air credit at the end.

On 7-28 it was noted that Colgate-Palmolive was considering sponsorship of *SUSPENSE*

---

**A FRIEND TO ALEXANDER (8-3-43) #51**

Author: James Thurber

Adaptation by Freya Howard

ROBERT YOUNG (Harry Andrews), GERALDINE FITZGERALD (Bess Andrews), unknown (Alice Crowley), Jim Bannon (Man in Black + Bob Crowley), Robert Harris (Dr. Fox), Horace Willard (Madison the butler)

*A man has recurring dreams of the historical duel between Aaron Burr and Alexander Hamilton.*

NOTES: This script was also produced on 6-15-44 and 8-15-56

The next show was announced as "Sorry, Wrong Number" (however it aired on 8-21-43)

An end plug announces *PASSPORT FOR HUNTER* debuting on August 17; that show was retitled *PASSPORT FOR ADAMS* and in fact did not premier until 8-24



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## **THE FOUNTAIN PLAYS (8-10-43) #52**

Author: Dorothy L. Sayers

Adaptation by Robert L. Richards

EDMUND GWENN (Archibald Spiller),  
Dennis Hoey (Sam Gooch), Raymond  
Lawrence (Inspector Branson), Robert  
Harris (Masters the manservant), Jim  
Bannon (Man in Black + Voice of  
Conscience), Vicki Marsden (Betty),  
Helga Moray? (Mrs. Rosalind Digby),  
Byron Kane? (Ronald Proudfoot +  
Coroner)

*A murder involves a water fountain and  
blackmail.*

NOTES: The end plug announces *Passport  
for Adams*, to premiere on 8-24 (Spier  
would direct four shows in that series).

This script was also produced on 11-23-44

Robert L. Richards, one of Spier's old  
*MARCH OF TIME* colleagues since  
1937, begins contributing to  
*SUSPENSE* with this broadcast and  
will become one of the show's most  
prolific writers

Schedule change to Saturdays at 7:30-  
8:00 p.m.

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## **SORRY, WRONG NUMBER (8-21-43) #53**

Author: Lucille Fletcher

Sound effects: Berne Surrey

AGNES MOOREHEAD (Mrs.  
Stevenson), Hans Conried (George), Harry  
Lang (George's contact / Western Union  
man), Leo Cleary? (Police Sgt. Martin),  
Margaret Brayton? (Chief Operator), Mary  
Jane Croft? (Operator), unknown  
(Henchley Nurse), Jim Bannon (Man in  
Black)

*A neurotic woman gets a crossed phone  
line and overhears a murder plan.*

NOTES: This was the second production  
of this script, first heard on 5-25-43. There  
had been a considerable number of listener  
requests for a repeat performance

The show ends with a PSA for U. S. Cadet  
Nurses Corps

"Sorry, Wrong Number" would be  
produced a record six more times, on 2-24-  
44, 9-6-45, 11-18-48, 9-15-52, 10-20-57 &  
2-14-60 (the last being a replay of the 1957  
version)

---

## **THE KING'S BIRTHDAY (8-28-43) #54**

Author: Louis Pelletier

DOLORES COSTELLO (Countess Elsa),  
MARTIN KOSLECK (Gauleiter Lt.  
Reichman), GEORGE ZUCCO (Dr.  
Ericson), Ian Wolfe (Old Peter of  
Cromwell Castle), Lou Merrill (Count  
Victor), Jim Bannon (Man in Black)

*A nobleman is informed that he will kill  
himself on the evening of the king's  
birthday.*

Schedule change to Thursdays at  
10:30-11:00 ET (7:30-8:00 pm PT)

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## **THE SINGING WALLS (9-2-43) #55**

Author: Cornell Woolrich (his story "C-  
Jag")

Adaptation by Robert L. Richards

PRESTON FOSTER (Denny), DANE  
CLARK (Tom Cochran), Ken Christy  
(Froggy / Cab Driver), Harry Lang (Larry  
the bartender), Eddie Marr (Joe), Gloria  
Blondell (Mildred), Leo Cleary (Clerk),  
Jim Bannon (Man in Black)

*A man awakes with a terrible hangover and realizes he is a murder suspect.*

NOTES: This script was also produced on 11-2-44

This was the final *SUSPENSE* show recorded on acetate discs by Station KIRO.

---

### **MARRY FOR MURDER (9-9-43) #56**

Author: Walker T. Field

LILLIAN GISH (Lettie Hawthorne), RAY COLLINS (Philip Alden), BRAMWELL FLETCHER (Mark Taylor), Jim Bannon (Man in Black)

*A nervous middle-aged woman is almost poisoned and her husband is suspected.*

---

### **THE CROSS-EYED BEAR (9-16-43) #57**

Author: Dorothy B. Hughes

Adaptation by Robert L. Richards

VIRGINIA BRUCE (Lisane Stefferson), JOHN LODER (Bill Volker), Bill Johnstone (Lance Vaught, alias Vilus), Robert Harris? (Hugh King), Cy Kendall (Inspector Tobin), Will Wright (Musicians' Union man), Harry Lang (Conductor), Horace Willard (Musician), Natasha Lytess (Lydia Vinton / Matron), Joe Kearns? (Waiter), Jim Bannon (Man in Black)

*A woman is hired for a mysterious sounding job but becomes involved in a crime.*

NOTES: Is Kearns a waiter in one scene?

This was the final *SUSPENSE* directed by Ted Bliss. Bill Spier, sufficiently recovered, assumes the roles of Producer and Director from here until early 1948.

Bernard Hermann returns to New York and Lud Gluskin becomes the permanent orchestra conductor.

At the end, Bannon announces the next four shows will feature Orson Welles. It was publicized as the tenth anniversary of Spier's first hiring of Welles for *THE MARCH OF TIME*. The final story of the four upcoming Welles broadcasts is announced as "Donovan's Brain" to be presented in two parts, scheduled for October 7 & 14. But this show did not eventuate until May of 1944 (the rights to a film version of the story were being finalized), and two different stories were substituted.

Mentioned in articles during this period were various movie actors, noted as past stars on *SUSPENSE*: Orson Welles, Robert Young, Margo and Laird Cregar had indeed appeared, but some other names mentioned had not. They included Ida Lupino, Basil Rathbone, Luise Rainer, Martha Scott and Harry Carey.

---

### **THE MOST DANGEROUS GAME (9-23-43) #58**

Author: Richard Connell

Adaptation by Jacques Anson Finke

ORSON WELLES (General Zaroff), KEENAN WYNN (Sanger Rainsford), Harry Lang? (Ivan), unknown (vocal effects), Joe Kearns (Man in Black)

*A mad master hunter tires of the game and wants to hunt human prey.*

NOTES: This script was also produced on 2-1-45

Joe Kearns resumes his role of The Man in Black narrator after a twelve-week absence.

---

### THE LOST SPECIAL (9-30-43) #59

Author: Arthur Conan Doyle

Adaptation by Jacques Anson Finke

ORSON WELLES (Franc DeLerniac), Eric Snowdon (Hood / Senator), Lou Merrill (Louis Carotel), Alec Harford (3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> voices), Joe Kearns (Man in Black / Narrator/ 2<sup>nd</sup> voice) [unknown actors as James Bland / James McPherson / Matagarko / Ralph]

*Somewhere in the English countryside an express train apparently disappears*

NOTE: This story was later produced on 2-12-49 for the *ESCAPE* series

An AFRS recording survives, with Howard Duff as the opening AFRS voice

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### PHILOMEL COTTAGE (10-7-43) #60

Author: Agatha Christie

Adaptation by Harold Medford

ORSON WELLES (Gerald), GERALDINE FITZGERALD (Alix Martin), Joe Kearns (Man in Black / Narrator), Lou Merrill (Dick), unknown (George the gardener), unknown (Police constable)

*A bride suspects her husband plans her death*

NOTES: This was produced earlier on 7-29-42, and again on 12-26-46

This show's music was conducted by Wilbur Hatch, subbing for Lud Gluskin

Schedule change to Tuesdays, 10:00-10:30 pm ET
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### LAZARUS WALKS (10-19-43) #61

Author: J. Marion Speed

Adaptation by Robert L. Richards

ORSON WELLES (Dr. Graham), Hans Conried (Roger Holcombe), Joe Kearns (Man in Black), unknown (Isabel), unknown (Aunt Jane)

*A man who almost died has developed an ability to foretell the future.*

NOTES: This script was also produced on 10-31-46

This show survives on an AFRS recording

On October 23, it was announced in the trade press that The Roma Wine Company would sponsor *SUSPENSE* starting December 2nd when the current *ROMA SHOW* (starring Mary Astor, Charlie Ruggles & Mischa Auer) wound up.

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### AFTER DINNER STORY (10-26-43) #62

Author: Cornell Woolrich

Adaptation by Robert L. Richards

OTTO KRUGER (Hardecker), Bill Johnstone (MacKenzie), Lou Merrill (Prendergast / Elevator Operator), Hans Conried (Kenshaw), Joe Forte (Lambert), John McIntire (Police Chief), Joe Kearns (Man in Black), Ted Von Eltz (Johnson the Butler / Cop), Albert Van Antwerp (Leslie Hardecker), unknown (Mrs. McKenzie)

*A man who seeks the killer of his son invites four men to dinner and poisons them.*

NOTE: At the end of this show, an announcement is made about the upcoming schedule change which occurs from 12-2-43, starting nine months of twice weekly *SUSPENSE* broadcasts. This

announcement is repeated on the following four shows.

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**STATEMENT OF EMPLOYEE  
HENRY WILSON (11-2-43) #63**

Author: John Shaw

GENE LOCKHART (Henry Wilson), Bill Johnstone (Detective Lewis), Hans Conried (Dodds), John McIntire (Larkin / Judge), Joe Kearns (Man in Black / Jim, the elevator boy), Jay Novello (Tom Higby), unknown (Mrs. Dodds)

*A meek employee is insanely jealous of another worker getting promoted.*

NOTE: This script was also produced on 9-26-46

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**CABIN B-13 (11-9-43) #64**

Author: John Dickson Carr

PHILIP DORN (Dr. Karl Heinrich), MARGO (Anne Brewster), Dennis Hoey (Captain Wainwright), Hans Conried (Marshall), Joe Kearns (Man in Black), Bill Johnstone (Ricky Brewster)

*Newlyweds honeymoon on a cruise ship but the husband vanishes.*

NOTE: This script was also produced on 3-16-43

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**THIEVES FALL OUT (11-16-43) #65**

Author: Robert L. Richards

GENE KELLY (Art Kramer), Hans Conried (Kennelly), Bill Johnstone (Sam Gross), Joe Kearns (Man in Black / Officer Jim), Harry Lang (Joe), Ken Christy ("Mac" McPhail), unknown (Rita), Horace Willard?

*A thriller about a small time hood in trouble with a gambling ring.*

NOTE: Hans Conried and Bill Johnstone get on-air credit, rare for this period

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**THE STRANGE DEATH OF  
CHARLES UMBERSTEIN (11-23-43)  
#66**

Author: E. Jack Neuman (his first radio script)

VINCENT PRICE (Umberstein), Hans Conried (Herr Muller), Joe Kearns (Man in Black / Conductor), Ludwig Donath (Captain Von Heinz), unknown (Fraulein Keller), unknown (Hans), unknown (Officer), unknown (train man),

*An allied spy is working undercover with the Gestapo but is compromised.*

NOTES: This was the final sustained *SUSPENSE* show for four years.

Schedule change to Thursdays, 8:00-8:30 pm ET, the show is now under sponsorship of the Roma Wine Company of Fresno, California via the Biow Ad Agency (Cal Kuhl, as head of its radio division, consulted regularly with Spier)

A CBS network time-sales problem was solved in an unusual manner by airing the show at 5:00 pm Thursdays (for 8 pm EST in New York).

Pre-sold Pacific net programming meant *SUSPENSE* "couldn't get back on the web for the [live] Coast repeat" until Mondays at 9 pm

This situation lasted some nine months until 9-14-44, a total of 42 shows performed live twice weekly, Thursday and Monday with the same stars, and in most cases the same supporting cast

# **SUSPENSE**

**SPONSORED BY ROMA  
WINES,  
DECEMBER 1943 TO  
SEPTEMBER 1944, EAST  
AND WEST BROADCASTS  
ON SEPARATE DAYS**

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## **THE BLACK CURTAIN (12-2-43 + 12-6-43) #67**

Author: Cornell Woolrich

Adaptation by George Corey

CARY GRANT (Frank Townsend, alias Danny Nearing), Lurene Tuttle (Ruth), Hans Conried (Doctor / Franklin Dietrich), Bill Johnstone (Police Officer), Joe Kearns (Man in Black), Bea Benaderet (Woman in Roma commercial / Mrs. Alma Dietrich), Harry Lang (Pop the Storekeep), Walter Tetley (Young boy), Robert Harris? (Grey Eyes, aka Detective Surry)

*An amnesiac seeks his real name and his innocence in a murder case.*

NOTES: The first of 205 Roma-sponsored shows. Frank Martin, who had been announcing the earlier *ROMA SHOW*, is the commercial announcer for the first 28 weeks.

First use of "A tale well calculated to keep you in ... Suspense"

This script was also produced on 11-30-44 and in a one hour production on 1-3-48

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## **THE NIGHT REVEALS (12-9-43 + 12-13-43) #68**

Author: Cornell Woolrich

Adaptation by Sigmund Miller

ROBERT YOUNG (Harry Jordan), MARGO (Marie Jordan), Byron Kane (Steve), Hans Conried (Mr. Palmenter / Policeman), Joe Kearns (Man in Black), Joel Davis? (Johnny Jordan), unknown (Commissioner), unknown (Investigator)

*A pyromaniac has a fire chief suspecting his own wife.*

NOTE: This script was also produced on 3-23-43, 4-18-46 and 5-26-49

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## **WET SATURDAY (12-16-43 + 12-20-43) #69**

Author: John Collier

Adaptation by Harold Medford

CHARLES LAUGHTON (Frederick Princey), Dennis Hoey (Captain Smollett), Gloria Gordon (Mrs. Princey), Raymond Lawrence (Sergeant Yancy), Hans Conried (George Princey), Joan Larring? (Millie Princey), Joe Kearns (Man in Black / Policeman)

*The Princey family calmly attempt to cover up a murder.*

NOTE: This script was also produced on 6-24-42, 12-19-47 and 3-20-48

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## **BACK FOR CHRISTMAS (12-23-43 + 12-27-43) #70**

Author: John Collier

Adaptation by Robert Tallman

PETER LORRE (Professor Hubert Schumacher), John McIntire (Mexican man in middle commercial / Professor), Jeanette Nolan (Hermione), unknown (Marian Markham), Joe Kearns (Man in

Black / Steward), unknown (Freddie Sinclair / Professor Goodnough),

*A Botany professor kills his nagging wife, and remarries.*

NOTE: This script was later produced on *ESCAPE* 12-23-1947, then twice again on *SUSPENSE*, 12-23-48 & 12-23-56

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**FINISHING SCHOOL (12-30-43 + 1-3-44) #71**

Author: Ethel Lina White

Adaptation by Harold Medford

MARGO (Caroline Watts), ELSA LANCHESTER (Dean Sterling), JANET BEECHER (Melodie), Joe Kearns (Man in Black), unknown (Flora Nash), unknown (Aunt), unknown (Helen), Bill Johnstone (Second character in commercial)

*Schoolgirls are conducting late night seances, one of which predicts a murder.*

NOTE: A previous production of this script was on 8-5-42

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**THE ONE-WAY RIDE TO NOWHERE (1-6-44 + 1-10-44) #72**

Author: Robert L. Richards

ALAN LADD (Tom Dwyer), Cathy Lewis (Sheila), John McIntire (Chief Haynes), Pat McGeehan (Terry), Lou Merrill (Ben Duffy), Hans Conried (Ferrara, the Bulletproof Auto barker), Harry Lang (Ed "Wires" McGuire), Joe Kearns (Man in Black / Johnny the ride attendant / Ted Martin), Byron Kane (Doctor), Joe Forte (Investigator Johnson), unknown (Barker / Harry)

*A dead person is discovered in the seat of a fairground rollercoaster.*

---

**DIME A DANCE (1-13-44 + 1-17-44) #73**

Author: Cornell Woolrich

Adaptation by Bob Tallman

LUCILLE BALL (Ginger Allen), Pat McGeehan (Nick Ballister), Hans Conried (Marino), Jeanette Nolan (Mom), Ian Wolfe (First homicide cop), Joe Kearns (Man in Black / Second homicide cop), unknown (Laverne), Kay Thompson? (Singer of "Poor Butterfly")

*A dance hall hostess is stalked by a madman.*

---

**A WORLD OF DARKNESS (1-20-44 + 1-24-44) #74**

Author: Robert L. Richards

PAUL LUKAS (Anton Rijack), Earl Keen (Carl), Hans Conried (Inspector / end commercial voice), Ian Wolfe (Franz), Gloria Gordon (Mrs. Washburn), Jeanette Nolan (Edna Collins), Charles Lung (Police Radio / Haggerty / end commercial voice), Joe Kearns (Man in Black), Elliott Reid? (Danny Farrell), unknown (Kay Walker), Mary Jane Croft? (Nancy),

*A blind man insists he can name a murderer.*

---

**THE LOCKED ROOM (1-27-44 + 1-31-44) #75**

Author: John Dickson Carr

Adaptation by William Spier

VIRGINIA BRUCE (Iris Lane), ALLYN JOSLYN (Harold Mills), GEORGE ZUCCO (Dr. Woodhall), Will Wright (Seaton), Joe Kearns (Man in Black / Barton), Hans Conried (Alex Van Houten), Bill Johnstone (Captain Hadley)

*The owner of a large diamond is murdered but no one can figure how it occurred.*

---

**THE SISTERS (2-3-44 + 2-7-44) #76**

Author: George Wells

IDA LUPINO (Lydia Haskell), AGNES MOOREHEAD (Elly Haskell), Ian Wolfe (Undertaker), Hans Conried (Second undertaker), John McIntire (Police Officer), Joe Kearns (Man in Black)

*A woman pre-orders a coffin, and arouses suspicions.*

NOTE: This script was also produced on 12-9-48 & 3-30-58

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**SUSPICION (2-10-44 + 2-14-44) #77**

Author: Dorothy L. Sayers

Adaptation by Peter Barry

CHARLES RUGGLES (Hubert Mummery), Hans Conried (Brooks), Joe Kearns (Man in Black), Bill Johnstone (Wellbeck / Officer), John McIntire (Dr. Maysbrey), Alec Harford (Thomas), unknown (Penny), Esta Mason? (Sutton), unknown (Helen, alias Caroline Andrews)

*A man is poisoned but doesn't know if it was his cook or his wife.*

NOTE: This script was originally produced on 8-12-42 and later in a one hour version on 4-3-48

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**LIFE ENDS AT MIDNIGHT (2-17-44 + 2-21-44) #78**

Author: Robert Tallman

FAY BAINTER (Mrs. Bates), DANE CLARK (Walter Bates), RALPH MORGAN (Mr. Chalmers), John McIntire (Officer), Joe Kearns (Man in Black / Joe the newsboy), Hans Conried (Plumber), Bill Johnstone (Officer Flanagan)

*An elderly woman has a no good son who is a walking time bomb of murder.*

NOTE: This script was also produced on 5-8-48 and 10-18-55

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**SORRY, WRONG NUMBER (2-24-44 + 2-28-44) #79**

Author: Lucille Fletcher

Sound effects: Berne Surrey

AGNES MOOREHEAD (Mrs. Stevenson), Hans Conried (George), Harry Lang (Contact), John McIntire (Sergeant Martin), Joe Kearns (Man in Black / Telegram boy), Jeanette Nolan? (Operator), Cathy Lewis? (Chief Operator / Henschley Hospital), Margaret Brayton? (Information)

*A nervous woman overhears a murder plot because of a crossed telephone line.*

NOTES: This script was previously produced on 5-25-43 and 8-21-43. It was later produced on 9-6-45, 11-18-48, 9-15-52, 10-20-57 & 2-14-60

“Third performance, in response to many listener requests.”

This story was already being recognized as the most famous show of the series.

---

**PORTRAIT WITHOUT A FACE (3-2-44 + 3-6-44) #80**

Author: Louis Pelletier

PHILIP DORN (Paul Degel), MICHELE MORGAN (Collette), GEORGE COULOURIS (Charles Gavenaud), Hans Conried (Doorman / Committee member), Joe Kearns (Man in Black / Waiter), Will Wright (voice in end commercial),

*An exhibit is set up by an artist to catch the killer of a French general.*

---

### **THE DEFENSE RESTS (3-9-44 + 3-13-44) #81**

Author: Rowland Brown

Adaptation by Robert L. Richards

ALAN LADD (Robert Tasker), John McIntire (Max Craiger), Will Wright (Judge), Frank Graham (Prison warden / Cop / Bailiff), Hans Conried (Arthur Hines), Joe Kearns (Man in Black), Joe Forte (Police Captain / Johnson), unknown (Peggy), unknown (Harry Marvin)

*An ex-con tries to go straight but is soon being charged with murder.*

NOTE: This script was also produced on 10-6-49

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### **NARRATIVE ABOUT CLARENCE (3-16-44 + 3-20-44) #82**

Authors: Dwight Hauser & Bob Tallman

LAIRD CREGAR (Clarence Crossman), Hans Conried (Bill Gilchrist), Joe Kearns (Man in Black), John McIntire (Doctor), Mary Lou Harrington? (Jeanie), unknown (Lillian), Robert Harris? (Dr. Miller)

*An uncle stays with his family and uses his powers of hypnosis to sap the will of each member.*

NOTES: Cregar died nine months later (on 12-9-44); Hans Conried gets on-air credit

A working title was "Death in the Family"

---

### **SNEAK PREVIEW (3-23-44 + 3-20-44) #83**

Author: Robert L. Richards

JOSEPH COTTEN (Frank Henderson), Hans Conried (Edwards, alias Sarko), Dennis Hoey (Captain McNeill), Joe Kearns (Man in Black / Interviewer / Callett), Cathy Lewis (Ruth in movie / Convent girl), John McIntire (Studio

executive / Informant), Robert Bruce (Leading man in movie)

*A movie producer becomes involved in a real-life spy drama.*

NOTE: Cotten was originally announced for a script called "The Dark Tower," which was eventually produced on 5-4, starring Orson Welles

---

### **CAT AND MOUSE (3-30-44 + 4-3-44) #84**

Author: Hugh Pentecost

Adaptation by Robert L. Richards

SONNY TUFTS (John Guthrie), Lurene Tuttle (Valentine Ames), John McIntire (Garvey), Will Wright (O'Brien), Joe Kearns (Man in Black), Jeanette Nolan (Mrs. Garvey), Eric Snowdon (Dr. Edwin Vaughn alias Hilary Lawrence), Lou Merrill (Howard Lockwood / Conductor)

*A radio engineer at a ski lodge is framed for murder.*

NOTES: Sonny Tufts is not a polished radio actor.

This script was later produced for Spier's season of *PHILIP MORRIS PLAYHOUSE* on 12-12-48

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### **THE WOMAN IN RED (4-6-44 + 4-10-44) #85**

Author: Anthony Gilbert

Adaptation by Harold Medford

KATINA PAXINOU (Rita Krebo), Ian Wolfe (Dr. Turner), Hans Conried (Carl), Joe Kearns (Man in Black), unknown (Julia Ross) [same actress as 3-9-44], unknown (Mrs. James)

*A woman is hired for a secretarial position, replacing a murdered woman in the same job.*



NOTES: The novel's author Anthony Gilbert was a pseudonym for Lucy Beatrice Malleson

The 1941 novel was the also basis for a 1945 RKO movie, *MY NAME IS JULIA ROSS*

---

### **THE MARVELOUS BARASTRO (4-13-44 + 4-17-44) #86**

Author: Ben Hecht ("The Shadow")

Adaptation by Jacques Anson Finke

ORSON WELLES (Sharri Barastro / Rico Sansini), Hans Conried (Anna's grandfather), Joe Kearns (Man in Black), William Spier (himself), Lurene Tuttle (Anna)

*Master magician tells the producer of SUSPENSE he will kill his hated rival.*

NOTE: Spier makes his first appearance in the series. Story was also produced on Peter Lorre's 1947 ABC series *Mystery in the Air*.

---

### **THE PALMER METHOD (4-20-44 + 4-24-44) #87**

Authors: Ernest Martin & Robert L. Richards

ED GARDNER (Joe Palmer), John McIntire (Man in Times Square / Fascist), Hans Conried (Recruiter / Rescue Party man), Joe Kearns (Man in Black / Agitator), Jeanette Nolan (Elena Valenkos), Jerry Hausner (Newsboy), George Sorel (Conductor), unknown (George Padway)

*Counterfeit expert assumes a new identity and signs up for the Mexican army.*

NOTE: This was the first use of an established radio comedian in a dramatic role (Gardner played Archie the manager in *Duffy's Tavern*), a hallmark of the *Suspense* series.

---

### **DEATH WENT ALONG FOR THE RIDE (4-27-44 + 5-1-44) #88**

Authors: Henry Denker & Ralph Berkey

GENE KELLY (George Javery), Harry Lang (Jones), Joe Kearns (Man in Black / Hotel waiter / Cop at Bridge), Hans Conried (Roadhouse proprietor / Entertainer), Walter Tetley (two bellboys), Jeanette Nolan? (Eileen Harrison), Bill Shaw (Hotel clerk / camera guy), John McIntire (Steve Brown), unknown (Waiter at Harry's), unknown (Operator)

*A driver who keeps finding hotel accommodations awaiting him becomes involved with a criminal gang.*

NOTES: This script was originally produced on 1-26-43

In-joke: Bellboy in background is heard saying, "Call for Mr. Spier!" (at 20:50)

<p><i>SUSPENSE</i> is now heard on Thursdays, 7:00-7:30 pm ET</p>
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### **THE DARK TOWER (5-4-44 + 5-8-44) #89**

Authors: George S. Kaufman, Alexander Woollcott

Adaptation by Peter Barry

ORSON WELLES (Damon Wellington / Max Hartsfeld), John McIntire (Ben), Jeanette Nolan (Jessica), Will Wright (David Torrence / end commercial voice), Gloria Gordon (Martha) Hans Conried (Stanley Vance), Joe Kearns (Man in Black)

*A well-known actor turns to murder to save his sister from her unhappy marriage.*

NOTE: This week it is reported that Spier signed a contract to produce films at MGM, the first of which would be "The Beast Must Die"

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## **THE VISITOR (5-11-44 + 5-15-44) #90**

Authors: Carl Randau & Leane Zugsmith

Adaptation by Robert L. Richards

EDDIE BRACKEN (Bud Owen), Ken Christy (Mac Berle), Hans Conried (Joe / Al), John McIntire (David Cunningham), Jeanette Nolan? (Judith Cunningham / Mrs. Callahan), Joe Kearns (Man in Black / Dr. Sterling), unknown (Ellen)

*Young man, long presumed dead, returns to his home town but some people think he is an imposter.*

NOTE: This script was also produced on 9-18-47

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## **DONOVAN'S BRAIN (PART ONE 5-18-44 + 5-22-44 // PART TWO 5-25-44 + 5-29-44) #91 & #92**

Author: Curt Siodmak

Adaptation by Robert L. Richards

ORSON WELLES (Dr. Patrick Corey / Donovan), Jeanette Nolan (Janice), John McIntire (Dr. Schrott), Joe Kearns (Man in Black), Hans Conried (Dr. Zanger), Bill Martell? (David Corey), unknown (Nurse)

*A doctor places a dead man's brain in a jar to experiment on keeping it alive. Soon it takes over the doctor's will.*

NOTES: This script was also produced on 2-7-48.

Following the broadcast of part one on May 18, Spier was dining with Welles and others at the Players restaurant and suffered his second major heart attack in just ten months. He was ordered to rest for several months.

On 5-31-44, Orson Welles performed a parody of Donovan's Brain on his own *MERCURY WONDER SHOW*, sponsored

by Mobil (series was informally called Orson Welles Almanac). His guest Marjorie Reynolds appeared in the skit, and Hans Conried and John McIntire from the *Suspense* show were in the cast.

Welles contributed the distinctively menacing mumbling and mutterings of Donovan, which were not part of the original novel. That gimmick was used again in the 1950s film version.

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## **FUGUE IN C-MINOR (6-1-44 + 6-5-44) #93**

Author: Lucille Fletcher

VINCENT PRICE (Theodore Evans), IDA LUPINO (Amanda Peabody), John McIntire (Man in Black), Bea Benaderet (Bessie), Mary Lou Harrington? (Daphne), Tommy Cook? (David)

*A widowed musician's children believe their mother's body is hidden behind the mechanism of their father's pipe organ.*

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## **CASE HISTORY ON EDGAR LOWNDES (6-8-44 + 6-12-44) #94**

Author: Robert Tallman

THOMAS MITCHELL (Edgar Lowndes), DONALD CRISP (Dr. Aronson), Hans Conried (Ellis the salesman / Father Lowndes), John McIntire (Narrator / Jim Jenkins), Peggy Rea (Nurse Finchley), June Shafer (Secretary), Dellie Ellis (Virginia), Conrad Binyon (Edgar as a child), Gaughan Burke (announcer on radio)

*A rich man suffers from headaches and is advised by his psychiatrist to take a rail trip.*

NOTE: This was the final show with Frank Martin as the Roma Wines commercial announcer

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**A FRIEND TO ALEXANDER (6-15-44 + 6-19-44) #95**

Author: James Thurber

Adaptation by Fran Van Hartesfeldt

GERALDINE FITZGERALD (Bess Andrews), RICHARD WHORF (Harry Andrews), Hans Conried (Doctor Fox / Madison), John McIntire (Man in Black / Bob Crowley), unknown (Alice)

*A man suffers recurring dreams of the historic Aaron Burr-Alexander Hamilton duel.*

NOTES: This script was also produced on 8-3-43 and 8-15-56

In the Monday (West Coast) performance, Hans Conried is replaced by Elliott Lewis

In the Thursday East Coast show Whorf stumbles on the line, "Every time I tell, sta...start mentioning it..." In second version, he says, "Every time I mention it..." without a flub.

This is the first of 107 shows with Truman Bradley as Roma Wines commercial announcer

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**THE TEN GRAND (6-22-44 + 6-26-44) #96**

Author: Virginia Radcliffe

LUCILLE BALL (Ge Ge Lewis), Pat McGeehan (The Greek), John McIntire (Wino / Axis agent), Harry Lang (Fat man / Whistling for old lady), Jeanette Nolan? (Old lady / waitress), Joe Kearns (Man in Black), unknown (Conductor)

*When a woman recovers her stolen purse she is \$10,000 richer.*

---

**THE WALLS CAME TUMBLING DOWN (6-29-44 + 7-3-44) #97**

Author: Jo Eisinger

Adaptation by Jo Eisinger & Robert Tallman

KEENAN WYNN ("Darcy" alias Patrick O'Donnell), John McIntire (O'Daigis the attorney), Gloria Gordon (Catherine Walsh), Norman Field (Father Walsh), Lurene Tuttle? (Patricia Behrens), unknown (Susan Finch), Lou Merrill (Captain Griffin / Klinger), Hans Conried (Ernst Helms / Hotel man), Joe Kearns (Man in Black)

*A murder investigation uncovers a piece of art worth thousands.*

NOTES: The plot was adapted for the *SAM SPADE* audition recording in May 1946: the narration and dialogue used by the Darcy character predates Spade-speak

Spier leaves hospital and is advised to keep resting for another three months
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**THE SEARCH FOR HENRI LEFEVRE (7-6-44 + 7-10-44) #98**

Author: Lucille Fletcher

PAUL MUNI (Adolphus), Lurene Tuttle (Lucille Le Fevre), Hans Conried (Dr. Pickard / Radio voice), Lucille Meredith? (Suzette), Joe Kearns (Man in Black), John McIntire (Man in Black: West Coast Monday show)

*A symphony composer fears he may be an unconscious plagiarist.*

NOTE: This story was also produced on Orson Welles's *PABST MERCURY SUMMER THEATRE* in 1946

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**THE BEAST MUST DIE (7-13-44 + 7-17-44) #99**

Author: Nicholas Blake

Adaptation by John Moore & John Marshall

HERBERT MARSHALL (Felix Lane), Bea Benaderet (Lena), John McIntire (Carfax), Dennis Hoey (George Rattray), Hans Conried (Witness), Joe Kearns (The Man in Black), Vicki Marsden? (Violet), unknown (Inspector Blunt), unknown (Phil Rattray)

*A father seeks revenge for his son's hit-run death.*

NOTE: In the West Coast Monday performance John McIntire doubled as The Man in Black

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**OF MAESTRO AND MAN (7-20-44 + 7-24-44) #100**

Author: Jo Eisinger

PETER LORRE (The Maestro), RICHARD CONTE (Ricky Martin), Joe Kearns (Man in Black), Lou Merrill (Game Caller / Airline P. A.), Hans Conried (Sam), John McIntire (John Cripp), unknown (Lynne Carter)

*A boxer resents his manager selling his contract to cover a large debt.*

NOTES: An in-joke has a passenger named Mr. Gluskin, after conductor Lud Gluskin (heard at 26:20). Another in-joke is a mention of Kay Thompson, Spier's real-life wife.

This script was adapted for the *Sam Spade* show of 2-16-47.

During this week, Spier holds auditions "with virtually every radio actor and actress in Hollywood" to build up a talent bank for future *Suspense* shows

---

**THE BLACK SHAWL (7-27-44 + 7-31-44) #101**

Author: R. R. ["Dick"] Lewis

MAUREEN O'SULLIVAN (Susan), DAME MAY WHITTY (Mrs. Masters), Joe Kearns (Man in Black / George / John / Adams), Pat McGeehan (Robert), Fred Shields? (commercial announcer)

*A woman hired as companion to an old lady realizes she is trapped and can't escape.*

---

**BANQUO'S CHAIR (8-3-44 + 8-7-44) #102**

Author: Rupert Croft-Cooke

Adaptation by Sigmund Miller

DONALD CRISP (Sir William Brent), JOHN LODER (Arthur Grange), Ian Wolfe (Layne), Joe Kearns (Man in Black), Gloria Gordon (Martha Ferguson / May Wakefield), Hans Conried (John Bedford), Esta Mason? (Roberta Stone), unknown (Hilda)

Fred Shields (commercial announcer)

*A ghostly dinner party catches a smug murderer*

NOTES: Loder delivers the end message for the U. S. Navy. This is the first of five shows to change the opening music format

This script was originally produced on 6-1-43, with some of the same cast, and was produced again on 3-9-50

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**THE MAN WHO KNEW HOW  
(8-10-44 + 8-14-44) #103**

Author: Dorothy L. Sayers

Adaptation by Evelyn Keller

CHARLES LAUGHTON (Everett Pender), Ian Wolfe (Charles), Hans Conried (William Barclay), Joe Kearns (Man in Black / Salesman / Second Man), Eric Snowden (), Raymond Lawrence (First Police Officer), John McIntire (Man at Club), unknown (Mrs. Digby), unknown (Second Police Officer)

*A man seeks a well-known "bathtub" murderer*

---

**THE DIARY OF SOPHRONIA  
WINTERS (8-17-44 + 8-21-44) #104**

Author: Lucille Fletcher

AGNES MOOREHEAD (Sophronia), RAY COLLINS (Hiram Johnson), Joe Kearns (Man in Black), unknown (Nurse)

*Neurotic woman unwittingly marries a psychotic man who imprisons her.*

NOTES: This script was also produced on 4-27-43 & 8-10-58

This week saw the first press mention of a radio show called "The Man" by Mel Dinelli slated for Frank Sinatra (that production aired as "To Find Help," 1-18-45)

---

**ACTOR'S BLOOD (8-24-44 + 8-28-44) #105**

Author: Ben Hecht

FREDRIC MARCH (Maurice Tillihugh), BEN HECHT (Himself, the narrator), John McIntire (Alfred O'Shea / Clerk), Hans Conried (Walter / Fritz Von Klauber), Harry Lang (Morey Stein), Joe Kearns (Man in Black / Butler / Doctor), Jeanette Nolan? (Marsha Tillihugh / Rina)

*Several people visit author Ben Hecht for a mystery concerning an actress's death.*

---

**THE BLACK PATH OF FEAR (8-31-44 + 9-4-44) #106**

Author: Cornell Woolrich

Adaptation by Robert Tallman

BRIAN DONLEVY (Bill Scott), Lurene Tuttle (Eve Spinelli), Joe Kearns (Man in Black / Pepe Campos), Wally Maher (Spinelli), Hans Conried (Driver / Officer), John McIntire (Inspector Acosta), Jeanette Nolan (Midnight), Charlie Lung (Mr. Chin), Jay Novello (Clerk)

*A man is involved with a dangerous gangster's wife in Cuba.*

NOTE: This script was also produced on 3-7-46

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**VOYAGE THROUGH DARKNESS  
(9-7-44 + 9-11-44) #107**

Author: Joel Malone

OLIVIA DE HAVILLAND (Judith Webster), REGINALD GARDINER (Alan Bruce, alias Charles Drew), Herbert Rawlinson (First Officer), Joe Kearns (Man in Black / Passenger), Alec Harford (Steward), unknown (Train conductor), unknown (Newsboy), unknown (Woman passenger)

*A woman travelling on a cruise liner meets a man who may be the London Blackout killer.*

NOTE: Olivia De Havilland reads a war effort PSA at the end

This was the final *SUSPENSE* show with separate performances on Thursdays and Mondays.

# **SUSPENSE**

## **SPONSORED BY ROMA WINES, SEPTEMBER 1944 TO NOVEMBER 1947, SINGLE BROADCAST DAY**

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### **YOU'LL NEVER SEE ME AGAIN (9-14-44) #108**

Author: Cornell Woolrich

Adaptation by Robert Tallman

JOSEPH COTTEN (Ed Bliss), Lurene Tuttle (Janet Bliss), Wally Maher (Bus Driver / Stillman), Joe Kearns (Man in Black), John McIntire (Joe Alden), Jeanette Nolan (Mrs. Alden), unknown (Ticket Clerk)

*After a man's wife leaves him in anger, she disappears.*

NOTES: This script was also produced on 9-5-46

Cotten was originally publicized to star in a script called "The Man Who Couldn't Lose." Instead Gene Kelly played that role on 9-28-44

The first Roma Wines show to air on the full national network on Thursday

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### **THE BLUEBEARD OF BELLOC (9-21-44) #109**

Author: Silvia Richards

MERLE OBERON (Mlle. Cecile Cambre), LUDWIG DONATH (Kreutzer), John McIntire (Dr. Pierre Cambre), Joe Kearns (Man in Black), Bill Shaw (Streletez), Jeanette Nolan (Mlle. Boget), Ferdinand Munier?, Stefan Schnabel?

*A woman must prove she will be a victim of the "Bluebeard" killer.*

---

### **THE MAN WHO COULDN'T LOSE (9-28-44) #110**

Author: Emil C. Tepperman

Adaptation by Robert L. Richards

GENE KELLY (Leonard Snell), Joe Kearns (Man in Black / Sam Mossley / Conductor), Lucille Meredith? (Celia Snell), Jerry Hausner (Floyd Heustis), Lou Merrill (Police Lt. / Banker), Ken Christy (Gangster), Harry Lang (Streetcar passenger / Gangster #2), Dick Ryan (Counterman), Jeanette Nolan? (Mrs. Mossley / Hysterical woman), Bill Johnstone (Jerry Malone), Jim Doyle (Radio Voice), Joe Forte?

*A story of endless fate, as a salesman kills his wife to avoid a large debt.*

NOTE: This script was also produced on 12-12-47

<p><b>SUSPENSE</b> is now heard Thursdays, 8:00-8:30 pm ET</p>
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### **DATeline LISBON (10-5-44) #111**

Author: Harold Medford

JOHN HODIAK (William Baldwin), Jeanne Bates? (Teri Moore), Ramsay Hill (Judge), Charlie Lung (Bellboy / Jury Foreman), Joe Kearns (Man in Black), George Sorel (Man speaking foreign language), unknown (General Von Klaus), Sidney Miller (Moska)

*Espionage story involving Nazi agents and a traitor.*

NOTE: Originally written for *THE WHISTLER* as "Lisbon Adventure" on 3-12-44

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**THE MERRY WIDOWER (10-12-44) #112**

Author: Roy Vickers (short story *The Rubber Trumpet*)

Adaptation by Robert L. Richards

REGINALD GARDINER (George Munsey, alias Daniel Prince), Raymond Lawrence (Street beggar / Inspector Davis), Ramsay Hill (Doctor), Alec Harford (Arrowsmith), Bill Roberts (singer for Prince Daniello), Joe Kearns (Man in Black / Birdie), Jeanette Nolan (Hilda Calameer), unknown (Ethel Munsey)

*A man kills his wife and is haunted by music.*

NOTE: The score incorporates Franz Lehar's "The Merry Widow Waltz"

---

**EVE (10-19-44) #113**

Author: Cornell Woolrich (novel *The Black Angel*)

Adaptation by Robert L. Richards

NANCY KELLY (Eve Jeremy), Wally Maher (Jerry Jordan), Lou Merrill (Frank Jeremy), Joe Kearns (Man in Black / Lt. Trout)

*An actress must clear her producer-spouse's name of a murder charge.*

NOTES: Nancy Kelly subs for the previously announced Lucille Ball who is indisposed

This script was also produced on 1-24-48, in a one-hour version

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**THE NIGHT MAN (10-26-44) #114**

Author: Lucille Fletcher

VIRGINIA BRUCE (Stella Rhodes), RICHARD WHORF (Tom Nixon the Night Man, alias Charles Foley), Wally Maher (Warden Graves), Joe Kearns (Man in Black), Harry Lang? (Gallagher)

*A woman thinks an elevator operator is really a man she helped send to prison.*

NOTES: This script was also produced on 7-26-59 & 10-23-60

A 10-27-44 news item notes that Frank Sinatra will be the star on 11-23, but that show was finally produced on 1-18-45

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**THE SINGING WALLS (11-2-44) #115**

Author: Cornell Woolrich (short story *C-Jag*)

Adaptation by Robert L. Richards

VAN JOHNSON (Tom Cochran), Wally Maher (Denny), Ken Christy (Froggy Graziani), Joe Kearns (Man in Black / Joe), Joseph Granby (Larry the bartender), Gloria Blondell? (Mildred), Peggy Rea (Mrs. Sorrell), unknown (Desk clerk)

*A man awakens feeling hung over and finds he is suspected of murder.*

NOTES: Wally Maher subbed for Keenan Wynn, who was originally announced as co-star for this show

This script was originally produced on 9-2-43

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**YOU WERE WONDERFUL (11-9-44)  
#116**

Author: Robert L. Richards

LENA HORNE (Lorna Dean), Wally Maher (Johnny), Joe Kearns (Man in Black / Rinaldo), Raymond Lawrence (Lance Harmon), George Sorel (Doctor), Kay Thompson? (Jacquie, the singer), Sidney Miller (Stengl)

*A vocalist suspects she is being set up to sing a coded song for the Nazis.*

NOTE: Is Spier's wife Kay Thompson the other singer? Possibly, as Ms Horne - like Ms Thompson, an MGM contractee - attended a housewarming party at the Spiers' new home following this broadcast.

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**THE DEAD OF THE NIGHT (11-16-44) #117**

Author: Mel Dinelli

ROBERT CUMMINGS (Jimmy), Lurene Tuttle (Helen), Wally Maher (Red Davis), Walter Tetley (First boy), Conrad Binyon (Second boy), Joe Kearns (Man in Black), Leora Thatcher? (Mrs. Gordon)

*A brother helps his sister move her dead husband's body.*

NOTE: This script was also produced on 6-19-47

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**THE FOUNTAIN PLAYS (11-23-44)  
#118**

Author: Dorothy L. Sayers

Adaptation by Robert L. Richards

CHARLES LAUGHTON (Archibald Spiller), Dennis Hoey (Sam Gooch), Ian Wolfe (Masters), Raymond Lawrence (Inspector Branson), Joe Kearns (Man in Black), unknown (Mrs. Digby), unknown

(Becky Spiller), unknown (Ronald Proudfoot)

*A murder case involving a water fountain and blackmail.*

NOTES: First of 29 weeks with society figure Elsa Maxwell in the Roma commercials (a news item in 1945 revealed "Miss Maxwell" was actually portrayed by radio actress Lucille Meredith)

This script was originally produced on 8-10-43

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**THE BLACK CURTAIN (11-30-44)  
#119**

Author: Cornell Woolrich

Adaptation by George Corey

CARY GRANT (Frank Townsend alias Danny Nearing), Lurene Tuttle (Ruth Dillon), Wally Maher (Doctor / Franklin Dietrich), Pat McGeehan (Officer), Harry Lang (Pop the store-keep), Joe Kearns (Man in Black), Conrad Binyon (Boy), unknown (Gray Eyes), unknown (Mrs. Ada Dietrich)

*An amnesiac must find his real identity and clear himself of being a murder suspect.*

NOTE: This script was originally produced on 12-2-43, also starring Cary Grant

<p><i>SUSPENSE</i> is pre-empted on 12-7 for the 6th War Loan Drive show, "Finish the Job"</p>
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### THE LODGER (12-14-44) #120

Author: Marie Belloc Lowndes

Adaptation by Harold Medford (revised by Bob Tallman)

ROBERT MONTGOMERY (Storyteller / Mr. Sleuth), Joe Kearns (Man in Black / Newsboy / Mr. Cannot), Wally Maher (Coroner), Raymond Lawrence (Robbie Bunting / Newsboy #2), Jeanette Nolan? (Ellen Bunting), Joan Larring? (Daisy Bunting)

*A fanatically religious tenant is suspected of the recent Jack the Ripper-style Whitechapel murders.*

NOTE: This script, slightly different, was originally produced on *FORECAST* (July 22, 1940, the show which served as the audition for *SUSPENSE*). It was later produced on 2-14-48 as a one-hour drama.

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### THE BRIGHTON STRANGLER (12-21-44) #121

Author: Robert L. Richards (adapting from RKO film written by Arnold Phillips & Max Nosseck)

JOHN LODER (Reginald Parker & Edward in the play), JUNE DUPREZ (April Manby), Joe Kearns (Man in Black / Policeman in play / Dr. Manby), Wally Maher (Shelton / Theatre Usher), Herbert Rawlinson (Police Sergeant), Raymond Lawrence (Inspector Allison / Ticket clerk), unknown (Actress in play), unknown (News announcer),

*An injured actor begins to play his stage role of the Brighton Strangler in real life.*

NOTE: Loder and Duprez reprise their film parts. Michael St. Angel played Bob Carson in the movie. He was announced for this radio version, but the character doesn't appear

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### A THING OF BEAUTY (12-28-44) #122

Author: Elizabeth Hiestand

Adaptation by Robert L. Richards

JUNE DUPREZ (Madeline Tremaine), John McIntire (John Gaylord), Joe Kearns (Man in Black / Alec Duncan), Herbert Rawlinson (Reverend Bentham), Wally Maher (Inspector Kellett / Doorman), Lucille Meredith? (Suzette), unknown (Nell Garrett), unknown (Sedley)

*An actress is charged with the murder of a hated playwright.*

NOTE: June Duprez, who starred in the previous week's show, subbed for this show's previously announced guest, Ida Lupino who was taken ill that week

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### I HAD AN ALIBI (1-4-45) #123

Author: Myndret Lord

KEENAN WYNN (Joseph Eichner), unknown (Belle Schaffner), Lurene Tuttle (Linda Vale), John McIntire (Doctor / Warden), Joe Kearns (Man in Black / Saunders the butler / Priest), Wally Maher (Lt. Vale / Gas station man), Cathy Lewis (Miss Lamson)

*A man intends to kill his wife and claim a large inheritance.*

NOTE: The working title was "Murder is Simple"

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**DRIVE-IN (1-11-45) #124**

Author: Muriel Roy Boulton

Adaptation by Mel Dinelli

NANCY KELLY (Mildred), unknown (Ruth), Wally Maher (The Man, alias Doctor Morgan), Joe Kearns (Man in Black / Rene / Highway Patrol cop), Peggy Rea (Rene's assistant)

*A car hop takes a ride with a man who won't let her out of his car.*

NOTE: This script was also produced on 11-21-46 and 6-14-59

---

**TO FIND HELP (1-18-45) #125**

Author: Mel Dinelli

FRANK SINATRA (Howard Wilton), AGNES MOOREHEAD (Mrs. Gillis), Joe Kearns (Man in Black), Wally Maher (Stevens, the telephone repairman), John McIntire (Armstrong), Charles Seel (Milkman), Earl Keen? (Sarah the dog)

*A psychotic young man terrorizes his female employer.*

NOTES: The working title was "The Man"

This script was also produced on 1-6-49

The show survives as an AFRS copy.

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**DRURY'S BONES (1-25-45) #126**

Author: Harold Swanton

BORIS KARLOFF (Roger Ashley-Norton, alias Terence Drury), Bill Johnstone? (John Stannup), Joe Kearns (Man in Black / Doctor / Driver), Colin Campbell? (Blind Ben Sykes), Raymond Lawrence (Chief Inspector Terence Carruthers), Wally Maher (Peters), Janet Scott? (Sarah), Ann Morrison (Mrs. Tumbley)

*A Scotland Yard inspector suffers from amnesia and fears he may have committed a murder.*

---

**THE MOST DANGEROUS GAME (2-1-45) #127**

Author: Richard Connell

Adaptation: Jacques Anson Finke

JOSEPH COTTEN (Sanger Rainsford), J. CARROL NAISH (General Zaroff), Joe Kearns (Man in Black / Ivan), Earl Keen? (Dog sounds), Purves Pullen? (Bird sounds)

*A deranged big game hunter now only wants the challenge of human prey.*

NOTES: A plug at the end publicizes the upcoming RKO film version of this show, entitled *A Game of Death*

Cary Grant was originally set to star in this production

This script was originally produced on 9-21-43, and later on <i>ESCAPE</i> , 10-1-47
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**TALE OF TWO SISTERS (2-8-45) #128**

Author: Mel Dinelli

NANCY KELLY (Adele Norris), CLAIRE TREVOR (Clara Foley), Joe Kearns (Man in Black), Wally Maher (Judge), Walter Tetley (Doug Foley, Jr.), Conrad Binyon? (Roy), unknown (Young Adele), unknown (Young Clara), unknown (Nurse Willard)

*A sane sister lives with her mentally unstable sibling who intends to kill her brother-in-law.*

NOTE: This script was also produced on 6-2-49, retitled "The Ten Years"

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**SELL ME YOUR LIFE (2-15-45) #129**

Author: Emil C. Tepperman

Adaptation by Harold Medford

LEE BOWMAN (Joe Bland), John McIntire (Lieutenant Vance), Joe Kearns (Man in Black / Sergeant Tannen the cop), Lurene Tuttle (Lenore Bodine), Joe Forte (Police radio voice / Photographer), Wally Maher (Foraday)

*A bodyguard is framed for theft and murder.*

---

**JOHN BARBEY AND SON (2-22-45) #130**

Author: Mel Dinelli

THOMAS MITCHELL (John Barbey, alias Wilson), John McIntire (Detective Bowen), Jeanette Nolan (Miss White / "Carl"), Wally Maher (Hotel clerk / Elevator operator), Elliott Lewis (Frank the bellhop / Mr. Wilk), Verna Felton (Hotel guest), Joe Kearns (Man in Black / Truckdriver), unknown (Man)

*A man insists on staying with a retarded son no-one else has seen.*

NOTE: This script was also produced on 3-29-59, and on Bill Spier's ABC series *THE CLOCK*, on 4-8-48

---

**MY WIFE, GERALDINE (3-1-45) #131**

Author: Lawrence Marcus

Adaptation by Robert L. Richards

EDWARD G. ROBINSON (George Graham), Jeanette Nolan (Agnes Barton), John McIntire (Potter), Joe Kearns (Man in Black / Smith / Harry / Garage Man), Elliott Lewis (Holmes), Wally Maher (Fred Bell / Police Lieutenant), Howard McNear (Man on train), unknown (Salesclerk), Harry Lang (Riley)

*A meek man is charged with murdering his wife but he is a bachelor.*

NOTES: Jeanette Nolan is given rare on-air credit.

This script was also produced on Bill Spier's production *THE CLOCK*

---

**LOVE'S LOVELY COUNTERFEIT (3-8-45) #132**

Author: James M. Cain

Adaptation by Robert L. Richards

HUMPHREY BOGART (Ben Grace), Lurene Tuttle (June Lyons), Wally Maher (Lefty Gaus), Joe Kearns (Man in Black / District Attorney / Archie), Elliott Lewis (Johnny + Doctor), John McIntire (Justice Department man), Norman Lloyd (Sol Casper)

*A gangster helps a crooked politician and is gifted the numbers racket*

NOTES: Lurene Tuttle gets rare on-air credit; this was the final show where Kearns's opening host was referred to as "The Man in Black." In future, he would simply be the *SUSPENSE* series' signature voice, noted on scripts as Narrator.

This script was expanded for a one-hour production on 1-17-48

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**CRICKET (3-15-45) #133**

Author: Mel Dinelli

MARGARET O'BRIEN (Florence), DAME MAY WHITTY (Mrs. Edney), Esta Mason? (Anna), Raymond Lawrence (Charles / Hinchman), unknown (Peters), Earl Keen? (Cricket the cat), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice)

*A little girl is scared of living in a haunted house.*

---

### **HEART'S DESIRE (3-22-45) #134**

Author: Robert L. Richards & Arthur Laurents

LLOYD NOLAN (Henry Doyle), Jeanette Nolan (Lucille Carmichael), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / Pawnbroker), John McIntire (Frizzell / Warder), Norman Lloyd? (Judge), Howard McNear (Convict), unknown (Policeman), Jack Moyles (Pawnbroker's Son), unknown (Girl at bank),

*A bank clerk turns himself in for robbery.*

NOTE: Richard Whorf was originally set to star in this show.

---

### **THE TAMING OF THE BEAST (3-29-45) #135**

Author: Charles Smith

Adaptation by Robert L. Richards

NANCY KELLY (Nora Van Nostrand), HELMUT DANTINE (Dr. Paul Ferrari), Ted Reid? (Mark), Cathy Lewis (Evelyn / Operator), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / Harry / Mills Laboratory man)

*A doctor discovers his wealthy wife is dying and tries to hasten her demise.*

---

### **A GUY GETS LONELY (4-5-45) #136**

Author: Don Paul Nathanson

DANE CLARK (Eddie Lewis), Lurene Tuttle (Jolie Andrews, alias Joyce Arlen), Howard Duff (Detective), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / Horace), Wally Maher (Sideshow barker / 2<sup>nd</sup> detective)

*An actor gets involved with racketeering and a penny arcade woman.*

NOTES: At the closing, Clark previews the next show as "Two Sharp Knives," starring John Payne and Stu Erwin. But on April 12 *SUSPENSE* was cancelled due to

blanket coverage of Roosevelt's death, so that show was next scheduled for April 26.

This is the first known appearance by Howard Duff in a Spier production.

Author Nathanson was an advertising executive at the Manson-Gold agency in Minneapolis

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### **PEARLS ARE A NUISANCE (4-19-45) #137**

Author: Raymond Chandler

Adaptation by Ranald McDougall

WILLIAM BENDIX (J. Henry Eichelberger), ALLYN JOSLYN (Walter Gage), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / Lew Scandisi), Hans Conried (Mug / Bank Teller), Wally Maher (Contact Man), Lurene Tuttle (Ellen McIntosh), Howard McNear (Gallimore)

*A comic episode in which a detective looks for valuable stolen jewellery.*

NOTES: At the end of the show Bendix and Joslyn plug the next week's show as "Two Sharp Knives." However, *SUSPENSE* was pre-empted on April 26 for a United Nations conference broadcast from San Francisco, and the "Two Sharp Knives" script, already postponed earlier, would finally air on June 7.

Hans Conried had been in the Army since late 1944; this show was one of the only radio appearances he made while on leave for a month. After V-J Day he would spend another year in the service, based in Tokyo.

This script was also produced on 4-20-50

<p><i>SUSPENSE</i> is now heard Thursdays, 7:00-7:30 pm ET</p>
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**FEAR PAINTS A PICTURE (5-3-45)  
#138**

Author: Sigmund Miller

LANA TURNER (Julia Powell), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / Lawyer), unknown (Laura Lyons), Will Wright (Harvey Lyons), Wally Maher (Dr. Barrow, alias Ralph Powell)

*A young woman, obsessed with a wall painting, fears she will go insane like her late mother.*

NOTE: This script was originally produced on 4-13-43

---

**REPRIEVE (5-10-45) #139**

Author: William Johnson

Adaptation by Silvia Richards

JOHN GARFIELD (Steve Hannibal), Cathy Lewis (Laurie Ware), Wally Maher ("Murph"), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / Joe Tonelli / Foreman), Joe Granby (Rail Detective / Judge), unknown (Gurley the lawyer)

*A hood, convicted of murder, is cleared by a female detective, and he falls for her.*

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**TWO BIRDS WITH ONE STONE  
(5-17-45) #140**

Author: Mel Dinelli

DANA ANDREWS (Walter Faber), Cathy Lewis (Eleanor Faber), Wally Maher (Nick / Police Officer), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / Joe Weiss), Earl Keen? (Tracy the dog)

*A playwright kills his wife but her death is ruled a suicide.*

On May 20, Ida Lupino performed in a "Sorry, Wrong Number" sketch on The Kate Smith Hour
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**MY OWN MURDERER (5-24-45) #141**

Author: Richard Hull

Adaptation by Silvia Richards

HERBERT MARSHALL (Richard Samson), NORMAN LLOYD (Alan Raynick), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / Policeman / Chatsworth), unknown (Margaret Farley), unknown (Ellen), unknown (Anita Kilner), unknown (Jeremiah Bloggins)

*A murderer is able to blackmail his lawyer.*

---

**AUGUST HEAT (5-31-45) #142**

Author: W. F. Harvey

Adaptation by Mel Dinelli

RONALD COLMAN (James Clarence Withencroft), DENNIS HOEY (Charles Atkinson), Gloria Gordon (Maria Atkinson), Peggy Rea (Cockney girl), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice)

*Atmospheric story about premonitions of impending death in a hot English village.*

NOTE: This script was later produced on 3-20-48

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**TWO SHARP KNIVES (6-7-45) #143**

Author: Dashiell Hammett

Adaptation by John Dickson Carr

JOHN PAYNE (Scott Anderson), FRANK McHUGH (Wally Shane, alias Harry), Cathy Lewis (Ethel Furman), Lou Merrill (Lester Furman / Ben, the coroner), Stan Farrar (Wheelock), Harry Lang (Cap / George, the jailer), Wally Maher (Elmer / Carl Reisling), Leo Cleary? (Signature Voice / Ted Carroll, the D. A.), unknown ("Hotcha" Randall)

*An innocent man, jailed for murder, dies in his cell.*

NOTES: At the end of the show, McHugh plugs the 7<sup>th</sup> War Loan Drive

The script was first produced on 12-22-42, and also on Spier's *THE ADVENTURES OF SAM SPADE*, 8-16-46

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### **THE BURNING COURT (6-14-45) #144**

Author: John Dickson Carr

Adaptation by Harold Medford (revised)

CLIFTON WEBB (Gaudan Croix), Jack Edwards, Jr. (Ted Covington), Cathy Lewis (Maria), Wally Maher (Captain Brennan), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / Freddie), unknown (Mrs. Henderson)

*A publisher believes the spirit of a 17<sup>th</sup> Century poisoner, burned as a witch, lives on in his wife.*

NOTES: At the end of the show, Clifton Webb plugs the 7<sup>th</sup> War Loan Drive.

An earlier version of this script was the first *SUSPENSE* production, on 6-17-42

From 6-17 to 9-16-45, Spier produces *Bandwagon Mysteries* at NBC, the summer replacement for the *Fitch Bandwagon* musical series. The mysteries starred Dick Powell in a private eye series called "Rogue's Gallery."

---

### **THE STORY OF IVY (6-21-45) #145**

Author: Marie Belloc-Lowndes

Adaptation by Bob Tallman

ANN RICHARDS (Ivy Lexton), Raymond Lawrence (Miles Rushworth), Wally Maher (Inspector Orpington), Gavin Gordon (Roger Gresham), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / Lab Man / Police

Sergeant), unknown (Miss Matthews), unknown (Jervis Lexton), unknown (Judge), unknown (Doctor Berwick), unknown (Nurse Maid) (possibly Pat McGeehan?, Frederic Worlock?)

*A fatal love triangle involving arsenic.*

NOTE: At the end of the show, Ann Richards plugs the 7<sup>th</sup> War Loan Drive

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### **THE DEALINGS OF MR. MARKHAM (6-28-45) #146**

Author: John Dickson Carr

HENRY DANIELL (Charles & Robert Markham), JOAN LORRING (Judith Ray), GAVIN GORDON (Ronald Gilbert), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice), Junius Matthews (Cabbie), unknown (Talking Clock voice)

*A London antique dealer is a blackmailer who vows to return from the dead.*

NOTES: Originally produced on 5-11-43 as "Mr. Markham, Antique Dealer." The script was produced again on 11-1-58

Originally J. Carrol Naish was set to star in "Footfalls" on this date, but that show was produced on 7-12-45

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### **THE LAST DETAIL (7-5-45) #147**

Authors: Eleanor Beeson & Harriet Crause

GEORGE COULOURIS (Professor Leland Moffett), Harry Lang (Pete), Howard McNear (Homicide Detective), Frank Graham (Signature Voice / Nosey / 2<sup>nd</sup> Homicide Detective), Joe Granby (Antony Carlotti), Jack Moyles (Sam Schwartz)

*A psychology Professor at a scientific gathering fears he has been abducted.*

---

**FOOTFALLS (7-12-45) #148**

Author: Wilbur Daniel Steele

Adaptation by Robert L. Richards & Alvin George

J. CARROL NAISH (Boaz Nigro), Conrad Binyon (Manuel as a child), Jack Moyles (Charlie / Second man), Jack Edwards, Jr. (Campbell Wood), Irvin Lee? (Manuel as older youth), Peggy Rea? (Mrs. Evans), Bill Johnstone (Signature Voice / Martin the policeman / Man #1)

*A blind man learns that his son could be a killer.*

---

**BANK HOLIDAY (7-19-45) #149**

Author: Robert L. Richards

BONITA GRANVILLE (Jane Evans), Elliott Lewis (Frank), Jack Edwards, Jr. (Harold), Frank Graham (Sonny), Jerry Hausner (Patrol cop), Bill Johnstone (Signature Voice / Johnson / Police Radio)

*A bank employee is kidnapped by robbers and fears she will be killed.*

---

**FURY AND SOUND (7-26-45) #150**

Authors: Robert E. Lee & Irving Reis

Sound: Berne Surrey

Engineer: Ted Denton

NORMAN LLOYD (Kingsley Roachler), "Mark Humboldt" aka Jack Edwards, Jr. (Charlie Fowler), Lurene Tuttle (Merle Fowler), William Spier (himself), "Clifton Cromwell" aka Elliott Lewis (Van the Sound man / Lewis the actor), Bill Johnstone (Signature Voice / Program announcer), unknown (Fowler's nurse)

*An arrogant radio producer has made enemies in the studio, one of whom intends to drive him crazy.*

NOTES: A rare example of an "inside" story, with hints of various high-powered radio talents embodied in the character of Roachler.

Wally Maher was originally announced as co-star alongside "Mark Humboldt"

The extant recording is an AFRS copy, better than nothing for a long-missing show

---

**A MAN IN THE HOUSE (8-2-45) #151**

Author: Leslie Edgely

JOAN LORRING (Emily Barrett), Joe Kearns (The Man), Ruth Perrott (Mrs. Barrett / 2nd library voice), Elliott Lewis (Dr. Ted Roper / 3<sup>rd</sup> library voice), Bill Johnstone (Signature Voice / Neighbor / 1st library voice)

*A vicious criminal invades the house of an old lady and her librarian daughter.*

NOTE: Joe Kearns is given rare on-air credit; he plays a large role here, so Johnstone does the *SUSPENSE* signature Narrator in Kearns's usual place, but Kearns speaks the title word "*SUSPENSE!*" each time. (Ted Meyers is the commercial spokesman, subbing for Bradley)

---

**MURDER FOR MYRA (8-9-45) #152**

Author: Paul Bernard & Lee Horton

LLOYD NOLAN (Ernie Cobb), Cathy Lewis (Myra Blair), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / Mr. Blair), Rhoda Elaine Williams? (daughter)

*A woman's lover is waiting in her closet to kill her husband.*

---

**SHORT ORDER (8-16-45) #153**

Author: John F. Suter

Gerald Mohr (Tanner, the stranger),  
Joseph Kearns (Signature Voice / Bailey),  
Conrad Binyon (Johnson), Jack Moyses  
(Ryan), Jerry Hausner (Chili customer),  
Peggy Rea (Customer)

*In a diner, a grossly ugly man causes the  
regular customers to leave and business  
drops.*

NOTE: Mohr, Kearns and Binyon are  
given rare on-air credit

---

**THIS WILL KILL YOU (8-23-45) #154**

Author: I. A. Finley (aka Irving Fein)

DANE CLARK (Joe Jordan), unknown  
(Harriet Slate), Elliott Lewis (Sullivan /  
Workman), Wally Maher (Charlie Harris),  
Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / Warden /  
Workman), Jerry Hausner (Workmen # 1  
& 3), Jim Nusser (Priest), unknown  
(Judge)

*A disaffected 4-F employee falls for his  
boss's girlfriend.*

---

**NOBODY LOVES ME (8-30-45) #155**

Authors: Herbert Clyde Lewis

Adaptation by Silvia Richards

Sound: Berne Surrey & Becky Barnes

PETER LORRE (Joe Reeze), Sharon  
Douglas? (Peggy Stewart), Joe Kearns  
(Signature Voice / Police Sergeant), Wally  
Maher (Police Captain), Ruth Perrott  
(Aunt Ellen), Conrad Binyon (Joe as a  
youth), Joel Davis (Alex), Horace Willard  
(Horace)

*A psychologically damaged killer enters a  
police station with a gun and tells his life  
story.*

NOTES: This show was staged an  
additional time and the performance was  
filmed in 35mm color as a promotional  
piece for the Roma Wine Company's  
national distributors.

The story was later produced on Lorre's  
ABC series *Mystery in the Air*, 7-31-47

VARIETY notice (9-5-45): "Dee  
Engelbach will produce Dick Powell's  
whodunits on Mutual for Fitch with  
Leith Stevens on music. Bill Spier,  
producer of *ROGUE'S GALLERY* on  
NBC, had to forego the Powell  
sleuthies due to conflict with his  
*SUSPENSE* series."

---

**SORRY, WRONG NUMBER (9-6-45)  
#156**

Author: Lucille Fletcher

Sound effects: Berne Surrey

AGNES MOOREHEAD (Mrs.  
Stevenson), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice),  
Harry Lang (George's Contact / Western  
Union), Jack Edwards, Jr. (George), Wally  
Maher (Sergeant Martin), unknown  
(Operator), unknown (Chief Operator),  
unknown (Hospital Nurse), Peggy Rea?  
(Information)

*A nervous woman gets a crossed phone  
line, and overhears a murder being  
planned.*

NOTES: The fourth production of this  
script, with news items calling this encore  
"one of the greatest thrillers ever aired."

It was produced three more times on 11-  
18-48, 9-15-52, 10-20-57 & on 2-14-  
60, when a tape of the 1957 version was  
rebroadcast.



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**THE FURNISHED FLOOR (9-13-45)  
#157**

Author: Lucille Fletcher

MILDRED NATWICK (Mrs. Hawkins),  
DON DeFORE (Mr. Jennings), Joe Kearns  
(Signature Voice), Harry Lang? (Canary  
whistling)

*A landlady becomes nervous when a tenant  
claims to be newly married, but his bride  
is nowhere to be seen.*

Spier's final of thirteen ROGUE'S GALLERY shows airs on NBC, 9-16- 45
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**LIBRARY BOOK (9-20-45) #158**

Author: Cornell Woolrich

Adaptation by Silvia Richards

MYRNA LOY (Prudence Roberts), Cathy  
Lewis (Maggie Hughes), Wally Maher  
(Lieutenant Murphy), Conrad Binyon (Boy  
in library), Ken Christy (Eddie), Junius  
Matthews (Older library patron / Duke),  
Peggy Rea? (Miss Baumgarten), Joe  
Kearns (Signature Voice / Police Captain),  
Jeanette Nolan? (Mrs. Rudnick), unknown  
(Melanie Stevens), unknown (Landlady),  
unknown (Cab Driver)

*A librarian is suspicious about a torn page  
in a book which she thinks means a  
kidnapping and murder.*

---

**THE EARTH IS MADE OF GLASS (9-  
27-45) #159**

Author: Silvia Richards

JOSEPH COTTEN (Richard Steel), Gale  
Gordon (Dr. West), Bill Johnstone  
(Salesclerk), Cathy Lewis (Miss Adams),  
Wally Maher (Mr. Jeremy), Joe Kearns  
(Signature Voice / Elliot), unknown  
(Librarian), unknown (Nurse)

*A cold man commits a seemingly perfect  
murder with no motive.*

NOTES: Cotten subs for Clifton Webb,  
previously announced as this show's guest  
star

This script was also produced on 6-15-54

<b>SUSPENSE</b> is now heard Thursdays, 8:00-8:30 pm ET
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**DEATH ON HIGHWAY 99 (10-4-45)  
#160**

Authors: Larry Marcus & Robert Light

GEORGE MURPHY (Morton Blake),  
Cathy Lewis (Pauline Blake), Bill  
Johnstone (Officer), Joe Kearns (Signature  
Voice / Haggerty), Joe Granby (Captain  
Shannon), Dick Nelson? (Sergeant  
Graham), Jack Edwards, Jr. (Doctor)

*A wife refuses to divorce her husband and  
threatens him with blackmail over an  
accident in which he killed a pedestrian.*

---

**BEYOND GOOD AND EVIL (10-11-  
45) #161**

Author: Ben Hecht

Adaptation by Douglas Whitney

JOSEPH COTTEN (Dr. Howard Pierce,  
alias Philip Gentry), Cathy Lewis (Lucy  
McKillop), Wally Maher (Mac), Gloria  
Gordon (Mary), Norman Field (Dr.  
McKillop), Bill Martell (Tom Hubbard),  
Alan Hewitt (Reverend Pierce), Victor  
Rodman (Officer Owens), Joe Kearns  
(Signature Voice)

*A prison escapee disguises himself as a  
priest.*

NOTE: This script was produced again on  
7-17-47

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### **SUMMER STORM (10-18-45) #162**

Author: Louis Este

HENRY FONDA (Eddie), Verna Felton (Mrs. Waters), Lou Merrill (Mr. Waters / Dan the Policeman), Ken Christy (Mike the Counterman), Wally Maher (O'Farrell), Elliott Lewis (Graham), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice)

*A man attempts to flee without paying his rent and is caught by his landlord.*

NOTE: This show was directed by series creator Charles Vanda who had recently returned to the radio industry after three years in army service (Spier was recovering from a minor heart attack).

---

### **A SHROUD FOR SARAH (10-25-45) #163**

Author: Emil C. Tepperman

Adaptation by Silvia Richards

LUCILLE BALL (Sarah Martell), Elliott Lewis (George Monk), Wally Maher (Police Inspector), Lou Merrill (Steven Archer), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / Dr. Varney), Dick Nelson? (Peter Martell), unknown (News announcer), unknown (O'Connor)

*A scheming woman dies violently, and her lurid past is investigated.*

NOTE: Charles Vanda also directed this show (an in-joke, Lucille Ball as Sarah mentions "the Vanda Finance Company").

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### **THE DUNWICH HORROR (11-1-45) #164**

Author: H. P. Lovecraft

Adaptation by Silvia Richards

RONALD COLMAN (Professor Henry Armitage), Bill Johnstone (Dr. Ken Houghton), Elliott Lewis (Wilbur Wately),

Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / Wizard Wately), Wally Maher (Corey), unknown (Dr. Rice), unknown (Lem Brown), [Peggy Rea?, Cathy Lewis?]

*A rare horrific tale from a Lovecraft story. A devilish birth occurs in a small New England town, a monster spawn of the Elder Gods.*

NOTES: Spier had recovered from his recent heart scare and with this show he resumed his role as Producer-Director

The existing recording is an AFRS copy, with Verne Carstensen as the AFRS announcer

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### **THE BET (11-8-45) #165**

Author: Martin S. Ryerson

LEE J. COBB (Scott Turner), Cathy Lewis (Ada Barton), Elliott Lewis (Siam), Wally Maher (Paul Barton), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice)

*A scientist makes an unusual bet with an artist.*

NOTE: Lee J. Cobb was originally slated to do a script called "Before the Fact." That eventually became the show "Angel of Death" (1-3-46)

---

### **MURDER OFF KEY (11-15-45) #166**

Author: Jean Russ Kern

ZACHARY SCOTT (Carlson), Cathy Lewis (Girl next door), Verna Felton (Imogene Poindecker), Elliott Lewis ("Soft Voice"), Wally Maher (Snide tenant / Joe), Jerry Hausner (Elevator operator), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / Morley), unknown (Pepe the poodle)

*An annoying woman and her dog are killed and a new tenant is framed.*

---

**19 DEACON STREET (11-22-45)  
#167**

Authors: Larry Marcus & Robert Light

LLOYD NOLAN (Morey Swartz), Cathy Lewis (Operator / Laverne), Verna Felton (Landlady), Elliott Lewis (Police Officer), Bill Johnstone (Joe), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / Jasper Florenz), unknown (Florenz's secretary)

*A newly rented room appears to be haunted by a ghostly young showgirl.*

NOTE: This script was also produced on 1-26-58

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**A WEEK AGO, WEDNESDAY  
(11-29-45) #168**

Author: Winifred Wolfe

NANCY KELLY (Maude Haskin), Gloria Gordon (Old Woman), Verna Felton (Woman in Apartment 3B), Bill Johnstone (Harry Haskin), Elliott Lewis (Signature Voice / Short order cook / Priest), Henry Blair? (Little Boy)

*A woman suffers disturbing dreams about her husband.*

NOTE: This script was also produced on 1-5-58

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**I WON'T TAKE A MINUTE (12-6-45)  
#169**

Author: Cornell Woolrich (*"Finger of Doom"*)

Adaptation by Robert Tallman

LEE BOWMAN (Kenny), Cathy Lewis (Stephanie Ryska), Bill Johnstone? (Hessen), Wally Maher (Lieutenant Gilman), Junius Matthews (Building super), Elliott Lewis (Signature Voice / Calhoun), Lucille Meredith? (Fake Stephanie, alias Olga), unknown (Mother / Landlady), unknown (Brat)

*A man's fiancée disappears from a building and everyone inside denies having seen her.*

NOTES: Lee Bowman subbed for previously announced guest Glenn Ford

The script was later produced on *ESCAPE* as "Finger of Doom" (3-19-49)

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**THE ARGYLE ALBUM (12-13-45)  
#170**

Author: Cyril Endfield

ROBERT TAYLOR (Harry Mitchell), Cathy Lewis (Marla), Wally Maher (Alan Peers / Haggerty), Joe Granby (Gil), Jerry Hausner (Melvin "Pinky" Pincus), Elliott Lewis (Signature Voice / Lieutenant Horse-lip Samson), Jack Edwards, Jr. (Winter, alias Gerald Avery), Paul Marion (Jor Brod), unknown (Dr. Van Selvin), Peggy Rea? (Nurse)

*A reporter dies of a heart attack after discovering the mysterious Argyle Album, worth a fortune.*

NOTE: This script was also produced on 9-4-47

---

**DOUBLE ENTRY (12-20-45) #171**

Author: Robert Minton

KEENAN WYNN (Eddie Sullivan), HUME CRONYN (Sam Crockett), Wally Maher (Race announcer), Jerry Hausner (Fink Martin), Elliott Lewis (Signature Voice / Bartholomew), unknown (Jail guard)

*A lighter than usual show, set around the world of embezzlers, bookies and illegal betting.*

NOTE: This script was also produced on 12-22-49

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### **PINK CAMELLIAS (12-27-45) #172**

Author: Charmion McGurk

Adaptation by Silvia Richards

MARSHA HUNT (Martha), Verna Felton (Aunt Abby), Jack Edwards, Jr. (Neil), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / Bennett), Jim Nusser? (John)

*An irritating elderly woman is poisoned with arsenic-infected strawberries.*

---

### **THE ANGEL OF DEATH (1-3-46) #173**

Author: Alan Cameron

PAUL HENREID (John Forsyth), Raymond Lawrence (Willy Waters), Verna Felton (Housekeeper), Irene Tedrow? (Pamela Forsyth), Wally Maher (Raymond Tillotson / Henry Jenkins), Frederick Worlock (Judge), unknown (Servant), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / Prison guard), Colin Campbell? (Attorney)

*A man is charged with double murder even though the corpses can't be found.*

NOTE: George Brent was originally slated to star in this show, with Paul Henreid a last-minute substitute.

---

### **THIS WAS A HERO (1-10-46) #174**

Author: Martin Ryerson

PHIL TERRY (Peter Norris), Howard Duff (Detective Hurley), Cathy Lewis (Betty Miller), Wally Maher (Police Captain), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / Al Crown), unknown (Mike)

*A young policeman is asked by the wife of a man he shot to clear his name of a robbery.*

---

### **THE PASTEBOARD BOX (1-17-46) #175**

Author: Joe Grenzabach

JOSEPH COTTEN (Jack & Walter Parselle), Elliott Lewis (Bank clerk / laughing ferry passenger), Wally Maher (Detective Lieutenant), Jerry Hausner (Ferry passenger), Ian Wolfe (Man in store), Horace Willard (Williams), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / Store clerk), unknown (Police sergeant), Tommy Bernard? (First boy), Joel Davis? (Johnny, the second boy), unknown (Helen Winters)

*A gruesome killing of a man by his twin brother.*

---

### **MY DEAR NIECE (1-24-46) #176**

Author: Elliott Lewis

DAME MAY WHITTY (Emily Rogers), Bill Johnstone (Officer Barnes), Wally Maher (Mr. Bruce, alias Paul Stevens), Bret Morrison? (Stevens / Al Newholt), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / Mr. Mayer)

*An old woman tells her niece about her tenant, a gun-toting mystery author.*

NOTES: May Whitty gives on-air credit to Wally Maher

This script was also produced on 11-16-58

This was the first script written by actor Elliott Lewis, soon to become a triple-threat radio talent as a producer-director-actor.

The SPERDVAC Archives catalog listing notes Bret Morrison in the cast (it seems doubtful, though, as he was then playing the title role of "The Shadow" weekly from New York).

---

## THE LONG SHOT (1-31-46) #177

Author: Harold Swanton

GEORGE COULOURIS (Kelly Raymond), Wally Maher (Detective Kelson), Jim Backus (First Detective / Highway patrol cop), Jerry Hausner (Paper boy / Tommy DeWitt), Gloria Gordon (Miss Andrews / Margaret Stoddard), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / Walker Hendricks)

*A man becomes a travelling companion to an eccentric - and wealthy - fellow Britisher.*

NOTES: The existing recording is an AFRS copy (Howard Duff is the AFRS announcer)

This script was also produced on 2-9-58, and the story was also done on *Murder By Experts* (12-4-50) and *Hollywood Star Playhouse* (6-8-52)

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## TOO LITTLE TO LIVE ON (2-7-46) #178

Author: Robert L. Richards

NANCY COLEMAN (Myra O'Connor), GEORGE MURPHY (Dr. Dave O'Connor), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / Uncle Ed), Wally Maher (Old codger / Clancy), Elliott Lewis (Herman the druggist), Bill Johnstone (Eldridge), unknown (Willie, the dog)

*A couple decide to kill their highly annoying Uncle.*

NOTES: This script was also produced on 12-26-47

“Spoils for Victor” was originally scheduled for this date, but it wasn’t produced until 5-23-46

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## THE LUCKY LADY (2-14-46) #179

Author: Ruth Bartlett Vemec

FAY BAINTER (Leonora Plimm), Cathy Lewis (Diane Carver), Elliott Lewis (George Smith), Wally Maher (Police Inspector), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice), unknown (Alice), unknown (Jane), unknown (Lady Suzie the cat)

*An aging theatrical running a rooming house takes on a new tenant who arouses her suspicions after various murders.*

---

## CONSEQUENCE (2-21-46) #180

Authors: Vladimir Pozner & George Sklar

Adaptation by Robert L. Richards

JAMES STEWART (Dr. Phil Martin), Cathy Lewis (Jo), Wally Maher (Travel Desk clerk / Old man), Verna Felton (Daisy Dooley), Tony Barrett (Ted Wolfe / Radio voice), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / Ed), Betty Lou Gerson? (Gwendolyn Martin), unknown (Mrs. Burton)

*A doctor decides to change his identity to escape a bad marriage.*

NOTE: This script was also produced on 5-19-49

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## \*\* THE KEENEST EDGE (2-28-46) #181

Author: Robert L. Richards

RICHARD GREENE (Jack), Cathy Lewis (Mildred Harkins), Joe Kearns? (Ed Harkins / Signature Voice), unknown (First cop), unknown (Second cop)

*A roadside diner cook learns that his boss is a murderer of two women.*

NOTES: This show is unavailable for review, with no recording known

This script was licensed and produced by the Grace Gibson company for an Australian radio series called *TENSION*, and is in circulation

---

### **THE BLACK PATH OF FEAR (3-7-46) #182**

Author: Cornell Woolrich

Adapted by Bob Tallman

CARY GRANT (Bill Scott), Cathy Lewis (Eve Spinelli), Elliott Lewis (Driver), Jay Novello (Inspector Acosta), Wally Maher (Spinelli), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice), unknown (Midnight), unknown (Photographer / Clerk at Sloppy Joe's)

*In Cuba, an American on the run from police gets involved with a gangster's wife.*

NOTE: This script was also produced on 8-31-44

---

### **NO MORE ALICE (3-14-46) #183**

Author: Martin Ryerson

PAUL HENREID (Dr. Warren Reiss), Cathy Lewis (Alice Reiss), Elliott Lewis (Police radio voice / D. A.), Wally Maher (Frank Tattam), Peggy Webber (Eliza Waters), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / Policeman / Fight commentator)

*A psychiatrist picks up a suspected killer and arranges a homicide.*

NOTE: Originally George Brent was to star in this production

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### **THE LONELY ROAD (3-21-46) #184**

Author: Marion Orth

GREGORY PECK (Steven Gair), Maria Palmer (Jenny), Cathy Lewis (Helen Gair), Wally Maher (Police Lieutenant), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / Real estate agent / Doctor)

*A man falls for his maid and plots to dispose of his wife.*

NOTES: At the end Peck gives on-air credit to the Misses Palmer and Lewis

Cary Grant was originally planned to star in this show.

On 3-24-46, the famous *SUSPENSE* show "Sorry, Wrong Number" was performed on The Radio Hall of Fame (ABC network); earlier on 1-31-46 it had been done as a television play starring Mildred Natwick in the lead

### **OUT OF CONTROL (3-28-46) #185**

Author: Baynard Kendrick

Adaptation by Robert Tallman

BRIAN DONLEVY (Captain Duncan McClain), Bill Johnstone (Dennis Filmore), Cathy Lewis (Marcia Fillmore), Elliott Lewis (Waiter), Wally Maher (Walter Crane), Earl Keen? (Snooky & Dreist, the dogs), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / Sheriff Blackmer)

*A blind detective investigates blackmail and a killing.*

NOTES: At the end of the show Donlevy gives credit to Cathy Lewis; in this show and the next two, the middle commercial uses the *SUSPENSE* chimes to spell out R-O-M-A

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### **POST MORTEM (4-4-46) #186**

Author: Cornell Woolrich

Adaptation by Robert Tallman

AGNES MOOREHEAD (Josephine Archer), Howard Duff (Third reporter / *SUSPENSE* sig. voice in middle spot), Jerry Hausner (Second reporter / Workman), Harry Lang (Jack, the second workman), Elliott Lewis (Paul Westcott),

Wally Maher (Madison), Joe Kearns  
(Signature Voice / Stephen Archer)

*A woman wins \$150,000, but the ticket is  
in the pocket of her just-buried husband.*

NOTE: The middle commercial has Duff  
as the *SUSPENSE* voice, but with Kearns  
still saying his customary “Suspense!!”

---

### **THE NAME OF THE BEAST (4-11-46) #187**

Author: Robert Tallman

VINCENT PRICE (James Dorrance),  
Cathy Lewis (Jeannie Baker), Elliott Lewis  
(Elmer Krebs), Wally Maher (Radio show  
host), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / Police  
Inspector), Jerry Hausner (Desk sergeant)

*An artist hides a jewel thief then double-  
crosses him.*

NOTE: The next show is announced as  
“Return Trip” to star Keenan Wynn, but  
was changed to a third performance of  
“The Night Reveals.” “Return Trip” aired  
eleven weeks later.

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### **THE NIGHT REVEALS (4-18-46) #188**

Author: Cornell Woolrich

Adaptation by Sigmund Miller

KEENAN WYNN (Harry Jordan),  
Howard Duff (Investigating Officer),  
Cathy Lewis (Marie Jordan), Wally Maher  
(Steve), Henry Blair? (Johnny Jordan), Joe  
Kearns (Signature Voice / Fireman),  
Raymond Lawrence (Parmenter), unknown  
(Commissioner)

*A fire chief suspects his wife of being a  
pyromaniac.*

NOTE: This script was also produced on  
3-2-43, 12-9-43 and 5-26-49

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### **DARK JOURNEY (4-25-46) #189**

Author: Lucille Fletcher

NANCY KELLY (Ann Brodie), Cathy  
Lewis (Alice), Joe Kearns (Signature  
Voice / Hodges, the station master)

*A disturbed young woman, in denial over a  
man who doesn't want her, believes she  
has the ability to control fate with her  
mind.*

NOTES: In the middle commercial  
Truman Bradley says, “Between the acts”  
instead of “Between the acts of  
*SUSPENSE*.”

Originally screen actress Rita Johnson was  
set to co-star with Ms Kelly, but Cathy  
Lewis finally played the role of Alice

<i>SUSPENSE</i> is now heard Thursdays, 7:00-7:30 pm ET
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### **CRIME WITHOUT PASSION (5-2-46) #190**

Authors: Ben Hecht & Charles MacArthur

Adaptation by Bob Tallman

JOSEPH COTTEN (Lew Hendricks),  
Cathy Lewis (Carmen Brown), Elliott  
Lewis (Henry / Eddie White), Bill  
Johnstone (Signature Voice / D. A. / Jury  
foreman), Joe Forte (Defence lawyer),  
Jerry Hausner (Usher), unknown  
(Secretary / Apartment house clerk),  
unknown (Tom), unknown (Miss Moore)

*A criminal lawyer commits murder and  
trusts his legal background will ensure a  
perfect alibi.*

NOTE: One day earlier on May 1<sup>st</sup> Spier  
produced an audition record for *SAM  
SPADE* (which debuted on ABC, 7-12-46)

---

### **THE CLOCK AND THE ROPE (5-9-46) #191**

Author: Louis Pollock

JACKIE COOPER (Henry Gilford), unknown (Judy), Bill Johnstone (D. A.), Elliott Lewis (Joe / Executioner), Howard Duff (Detective), Wally Maher (Trolley car man / Warden Barnes), Junius Matthews (Bailey Hall / Priest), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / McGill), Lou Merrill (Jury foreman), Paul McVey? (Governor / Judge)

*An innocent young man is accused of murder and sentenced to hang.*

NOTE: This script was also produced on 12-5-47

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### **THE PLAN (5-16-46) #192**

Author: Cyril Endfield

CLAIRE TREVOR (Helen Anderson), Bill Johnstone (Al Anderson), Elliott Lewis (Harvey Anderson / Officer), Jerry Hausner (Door to door salesman), Wally Maher (Detective Lieutenant), Horace Willard (Rutherford), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / Doctor / Ralph), unknown (Matilda / Pearl)

*A woman discovers she has a murderous brother-in-law who just escaped from an insane asylum.*

---

### **SPOILS FOR VICTOR (5-23-46) #193**

Author: J. Edward Hudock

Adaptation by Robert L. Richards

DANE CLARK (Victor Rudecker), Cathy Lewis (Madeleine Rawlins), Elliott Lewis (Harry / The tailor), Wally Maher (Priest), Jerry Hausner (Pinky Roberts), Ken Christy (Barney Bernard), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / Doctor / Speech tutor), Nanette Vallon? (Marie), Betty Lou Gerson? (Helen)

*An actor's agent convinces him to murder his wealthy playgirl wife.*

NOTE: This script was also produced on 5-24-59

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### **THE LEADING CITIZEN OF PRATT COUNTY (5-30-46) #194**

Author: Robert L. Richards

ALAN HALE ("Professor Alonzo P. Witherspoon"), Sam Edwards? (Sonny Neff), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / Woodrow Neff), Verna Felton (Mrs. Neff), Jerry Hausner (Harry), Wally Maher (Henry Wink / Highway Officer), unknown (Mrs. Osterman)

*A blustery con man intends to swindle the denizens of a small town of a large sum of money.*



---

**THE HIGH WALL (6-6-46) #195**

Author: Bradbury Foote

Adaptation by William Spier

ROBERT YOUNG (Bob Lewis),  
GEORGE ZUCCO (Professor Byrd),  
Cathy Lewis (Nurse Amy Adams), Wally  
Maher (Dr. Dunlap), Joe Kearns  
(Signature Voice / Giggling inmate)

*A man wakes up in an asylum suffering  
memory loss, and must deal with a strange  
doctor.*

---

**TOO MANY SMITHS (6-13-46) #196**

Author: Arthur L. Gray

HUME CRONYN (Charles Wallingford),  
Bill Johnstone (Doctor), Elliott Lewis (Pat  
Smith), Wally Maher (Pat Smith # 2), Joe  
Kearns (Signature Voice / Policeman),  
Cathy Lewis (Betty, the girl), Jerry  
Hausner (The clerk), Harry Lang (Police  
sergeant / Man at train station)

*A janitor commits murder to get at the  
money his victim won in a contest.*

---

**YOUR DEVOTED WIFE (6-20-46)  
#197**

Author: David R. Gillespie

JUNE DUPREZ (Melissa Thornton), Bill  
Johnstone (Martin Thornton), Wally  
Maher (Doctor), Joe Kearns (Signature  
Voice / Train conductor), Horace Willard  
(Train porter), Jerry Hausner (Interne),  
Peggy Rea? (Nurse)

*A woman on a train with her insane  
husband may herself be the one with  
mental issues.*

---

**RETURN TRIP (6-27-46) #198**

Author: Maurice Zimm

ELLIOTT REID (Greg), Cathy Lewis  
(Female bus passenger / Nurse), Wally  
Maher (John Willard), Raymond Lawrence  
(Mr. Kinsiton), Joe Kearns (Signature  
Voice / Officer Denton), Lou Merrill  
(Second cop), Herbert Rawlinson?  
(Superintendent Andrews)

*A bus in a mountain snowstorm harbors a  
psychopath among the passengers.*

---

**AN EVENING'S DIVERSION (7-4-46)  
#199**

Author: Stan Schlesinger

LEON AMES (Paul Edwards), Cathy  
Lewis (Lily Edwards), Elliott Lewis  
(Doctor / Railway officer), Gerald Mohr  
(Maxie), Wally Maher (Joe, the elevator  
operator / Old man), Lurene Tuttle (Lois /  
Phone operator), Jerry Hausner (Cab driver  
/ Desk sergeant), Harry Lang (Maxie's  
associate), Bill Johnstone (Signature Voice  
/ Policeman), unknown (Waitress)

*A tired businessman becomes involved in a  
murder.*

---

**FEAST OF THE FURIES (7-11-46)  
#200**

Author: David R. Gillespie

SHELDON LEONARD (Casey), Cathy  
Lewis (Clara), Elliott Reid (Sam), Wally  
Maher (Jake), Bill Johnstone (Signature  
Voice)

*A man awakens to find he has been  
kidnapped by a hit man.*

NOTE: Spier's new show *THE  
ADVENTURES OF SAM SPADE*,  
*DETECTIVE* debuts on the ABC network  
on 7-12-46 for 13 weeks

---

### PHOTO FINISH (7-18-46) #201

Author: Roy Grandey

Adaptation by Robert L. Richards

MICHAEL O'SHEA (Joe Mooney), Cathy Lewis (Maude), Jerry Hausner (Jake), Bill Johnstone (Signature Voice/ first cop), Jay Novello (Harry/ second cop), Wally Maher (The tough guy), Ira Grossel (Frankie), Mary Jane Croft? (Jeanne O'Dea)

*A light-hearted story of a photographer who captures a killing taking place in a photo.*

NOTE: This was announcer Truman Bradley's final *SUSPENSE* show for 33 weeks

---

### CAN'T WE BE FRIENDS? (7-25-46) #202

Author: Elliott Lewis

ELLIOTT LEWIS (Michael Gordon), Lurene Tuttle (Fran Murphy), Wally Maher (Dr. Maher), Betty Moran (Bettejane), Irvin Lee (Boyfriend), Jerry Hausner (Jack the "Vout" kid / Tenant / Baby crying), Bill Johnstone (Signature Voice / Man in elevator / Old man Epstein)

*A woman is stalked by an emotionally disturbed man.*

NOTES: The working title was "Full Confession."

At the end of the show, Lewis gives the full cast and the roles they played (as he later would for *ON STAGE*).

This was the first *SUSPENSE* show with Ken Niles as the commercial announcer.

---

### COMMUTER'S TICKET (8-1-46) #203

Author: Roy Grandey & Robert Tallman

J. CARROL NAISH (Bert Gavin), Wally Maher (Inspector Daniels), Jeanette Nolan (Alva), Bill Johnstone (Signature Voice / Indignant train passenger), Howard Duff (First bridge player), Jim Backus (Elmer Russell / Passenger/ Whitney the 3<sup>rd</sup> bridge player), Jerry Hausner (Jack, the 2<sup>nd</sup> bridge player), Lou Merrill (Conductor), Leora Thatcher? (Alva Gavin)

*A man murders his unfaithful wife and attempts to blend in with a large crowd on a train.*

---

### DEAD ERNEST (8-8-46) #204

Authors: Seeleg Lester & Merwyn Gerard

Wally Maher (Lt. Steve Healy / Bystander), Walter Tetley (Bobby Minelli), Tommy Bernard (Tommy Stoner), Jay Novello (Minelli / Clerk), Robert Bailey (Officer Abbott), Hal K. Dawson (Tobin / Tony the second embalmer), Bill Johnstone (Signature Voice / Bystander / Dr. Theodore Weldon), Peggy Rea (Honey the Coroner's assistant), Verna Felton (Mrs. Raleigh the landlady), Will Wright (Honest Jerry Murdock), Lester Jay (Payne / Officer), Jerry Hausner (Al Beniston, chief embalmer), Elliott Lewis (Henry Prince), Cathy Lewis (Frances Prince / Mrs. Bowers), Junius Matthews (Ernest Bowers)

*A breathless race against time as a man suffering a condition called catalepsy is soon to be embalmed.*

NOTES: The working title was "The Articles of Death."

This script was also produced on 5-8-47 and 3-24-49. This first version won

*SUSPENSE* a 1947 Peabody Award  
citation for excellence in broadcast drama

---

**THE LAST LETTER OF DR.  
BRONSON (8-15-46) #205**

Author: Richard Creyke

Adaptation by Leonard St. Clair

HENRY DANIELL (Dr. Bronson), Cathy  
Lewis (Dr. Judith Ainsley), Elliott Lewis  
(Laderne), Norman Field (Dr. Mosher),  
Wally Maher (Matt Doyle), Bill Johnstone  
(Signature Voice), Junius Matthews  
(Totten)

*A doctor sets himself up to be murdered by  
four people in order to prove his pet  
hypothesis.*

NOTE: This script was also produced on  
7-27-43 & 11-4-54

---

**THE GREAT HORRELL (8-22-46)  
#206**

Authors: George & Gertrude Fass

JOAN LORRING (Alma Horrell), Lou  
Merrill (Martin Horrell), Elliott Lewis  
(Paul Wilson), Wally Maher (Dr. Emil  
Hochman), Bill Johnstone (Signature  
Voice / Jury Foreman / MC), Will Wright  
(District Attorney), Jerry Hausner  
(Banning), unknown (Judge), Mary Jane  
Croft? (Secretary)

*A sinister mind reader goes overseas but  
can still control his wife.*

---

**BLUE EYES (8-29-46) #207**

Authors: Lewis Reed & Charles Smith

HUME CRONYN (Oliver Littlefield),  
Cathy Lewis (Jane), Bill Johnstone (Joe),  
Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / Dr.  
Thacker), Wally Maher (Crowley the  
postman), Elliott Lewis (Steve /  
Policeman), Will Wright (Mr. Bevins),  
Forrest Lewis (Photo Shop clerk), Paul

McVey? (Coroner), Mary Jane Croft?  
(Laura / Librarian)

*A mousy man intends to kill his nagging  
wife with a sedative but she commits  
suicide.*

NOTES: Originally announced for  
Cronyn's role was, at first, J. Carrol Naish,  
then Cecil Kellaway

Joe Kearns resumed the signature narrator  
voice after an eight-week break.

---

**YOU'LL NEVER SEE ME AGAIN (9-  
5-46) #208**

Author: Cornell Woolrich

Adaptation by Robert Tallman

ROBERT YOUNG (Ed Bliss), Cathy  
Lewis (Janet Bliss / Mrs. Farley), Bill  
Johnstone (Farley / Gas station guy),  
Verna Felton (Mrs. Laura Alden), Wally  
Maher (Bus Driver / Detective Stillman),  
Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / Joe Alden),  
unknown (Ticket clerk)

*Following an argument a man's wife  
leaves him, but then she disappears.*

NOTE: This script was also produced on  
9-14-44\_

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**HUNTING TRIP (9-12-46) #209**

Authors: Paul Bernard & Lee Horton

VINCENT PRICE (Eric), LLOYD  
NOLAN (Stan), Joe Kearns (Signature  
Voice)

*Two men who loved the same woman go  
away on a hunting weekend in Maine.*

NOTE: This story was later performed on  
*Murder by Experts*, 1-9-50

---

## **TILL THE DAY I DIE (9-19-46) #210**

Author: Michael Ryerson

Adaptation by Robert L. Richards

DANE CLARK (Frankie Cane), Betty Lou Gerson (Barbara Page), Cathy Lewis (Pat Cane), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice), Henry Blair (Teddy), unknown (Porter)

*A robber kills a store owner, then winds up travelling alongside the widow and son of his victim.*

---

## **STATEMENT OF EMPLOYEE HENRY WILSON (9-26-46) #211**

Author: John Shaw

GENE LOCKHART (Henry Wilson), Cathy Lewis (Mrs. Dodds), Wally Maher (Tom Higby / Lieutenant), Jerry Hausner (Jim, the elevator boy), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / Larkin / Judge), Bill Johnstone (Detective Lewis), Ted Von Eltz (Dodds)

*A meek office worker kills his boss and discovers he is haunted.*

NOTES: This script was originally produced on 11-2-43

Spier's new show *THE ADVENTURES OF SAM SPADE, DETECTIVE* moves from ABC to CBS, starting 9-29-46 (overlapping with a final ABC instalment on 10-4-46)

The trade press mentioned on 9-26 that long-time writer Robert L. Richards had been appointed the assistant editor on *SUSPENSE*

***SUSPENSE*** is now heard Thursdays, 8:00-8:30 pm ET

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## **THREE TIMES MURDER (10-3-46) #212**

Authors: Robert L. Richards & John DeWitt

RITA HAYWORTH (Laura Williams, nee Starling-Morton), Hans Conried (Elmer Garner), Bill Johnstone (Charles Morton), Wally Maher (Robert Williams), Lou Merrill (Radio voice / Jury Foreman), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / Judge)

*A widow remarries and her new brother-in-law is the lawyer who suspected her of killing her first spouse.*

NOTES: This show marked Hans Conried's return to regular Hollywood radio work following war service. He is given credit at the start of this show. Spier gives him several *SUSPENSE* bookings over the next months.

---

## **A PLANE CASE OF MURDER (10-10-46) #213**

Author: Robert L. Richards

JOHN LUND (Randy Judson), Cathy Lewis (Marian), Hans Conried (Dunn), Jerry Hausner (Scottie), Bill Johnstone (District Attorney / 2<sup>nd</sup> Doctor), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / Doctor)

*Aboard a plane a woman kills her rich husband, helped by an ex-soldier.*

NOTE: John Lund subbed for Mark Stevens, previously announced as star on this show.

On 10-12-46, Spier directs a comedy skit as part of a special 2-hour radio show broadcast from the Hollywood Bowl for the Red Feather Community Chest drive. The sketch is called "Murder in the West" and features all the then-current mystery & detective stars of Hollywood radio: *The Whistler*,

*Red Ryder, The Cisco Kid, Ross Dolan, Michael Shayne, Gregory Hood, Bulldog Drummond, Dr. Danfield, Myrna Loy as Nora Charles from The Thin Man, and Howard Duff from Spier's own Sam Spade series. Spier himself plays "the Corpse" who talks at the end of the skit.*

---

**THE MAN WHO THOUGHT HE WAS EDWARD G. ROBINSON (10-17-46) #214**

Author: Lesley Raddatz

EDWARD G. ROBINSON (Homer J. Hubbard), Verna Felton (Ada Hubbard), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / Ryan), Jerry Hausner (Gun Salesman), Wally Maher (Dinner guest)

*Robinson plays a light-hearted dual role, as himself the movie tough guy and a henpecked man who wants to get rid of his wife.*

NOTES: This script was also produced on 9-30-48

One background music cue, in a march tempo, is used from 1953-56 as the closing theme of *SUSPENSE* and on innumerable AFRS pressings of the 1950s.

---

**DAME FORTUNE (10-24-46) #215**

Author: Ed Murkland & Max Wilk

Adaptation by Robert L. Richards

SUSAN HAYWARD (Jean Nicholson), Bill Johnstone (Sparks / Party guest), Wally Maher (Frank Nicholson), Hans Conried (Charlie Prescott), Paul Frees (Olsen), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / Doctor), Kay Thompson (Singing voice for Susan Hayward)

*A nightclub vocalist is blackmailed and her husband is killed.*

---

**LAZARUS WALKS (10-31-46) #216**

Author: J. Marion Speed

Adaptation by Robert L. Richards

BRIAN DONLEVY (Dr. Robert Graham), Hans Conried (Roger Holcombe), Cathy Lewis (Isabelle), Wally Maher (Police Inspector), Verna Felton (Aunt Jane), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice)

*A man almost dies and when he recovers he has the ability to foretell the future.*

NOTE: This script was originally produced on 10-19-43

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**EASY MONEY (11-7-46) #217**

Author: Sidney Renthal

JACK CARSON (Paul Bentley), Cathy Lewis (Ellen), Wally Maher (Harrison / Paperboy), Paul Frees (Macaw / Martin / 2<sup>nd</sup> Paperboy / Cop), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / McNulty / 2<sup>nd</sup> Cop), Betty Lou Gerson (Martha), Ted Von Eltz? (Robert the butler)

*A pianist wants to get rid of his nagging wife who has returned and won't divorce him.*

---

**THE ONE WHO GOT AWAY (11-14-46) #218**

Author: James Keene

HUME CRONYN (James Carroll), Hans Conried (Arthur Tillwer), Cathy Lewis (Ethel Carroll), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / Dolan / Jury Foreman), Wally Maher (Judge)

*A bank clerk blackmails a dishonest employee into murdering his shrew of a wife.*

---

### **DRIVE-IN (11-21-46) #219**

Author: Muriel Roy Bolton

Adaptation by Mel Dinelli

JUDY GARLAND (Mildred), Cathy Lewis (Ruth), Elliott Lewis (The Man, alias Dr. Morgan), Bill Johnstone (Highway Patrol cop), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / Rene), Peggy Rea? (Rene's assistant)

*A carhop accepts a quick lift from a customer but he quickly deprives her of liberty.*

NOTE: This script was also produced on 1-11-45 & 6-14-59

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### **THE STRANGE DEATH OF GORDON FITZROY (11-28-46) #220**

Author: Bruce Cassidy

Adaptation: Robert L. Richards

CHESTER MORRIS (Johnny Malone), Lurene Tuttle (Fran Thompson), Cathy Lewis (Nurse), Wally Maher (Sam Braggen), Hans Conried (Cab Driver), Bill Johnstone (Fred Zelman / 2<sup>nd</sup> Doctor), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / Prison guard / Doctor), Harry Lang (Man in shop), Peggy Rea (Woman)

*A story of thieves falling out, double cross and revenge.*

Originally planned for 12-5-46 was a third annual performance of the first Roma-sponsored show, "The Black Curtain," to once again star Cary Grant

---

### **THE HOUSE IN CYPRESS CANYON (12-5-46) #221**

Author: Robert L. Richards

ROBERT TAYLOR (James Woods), Cathy Lewis (Ellen Woods), Howard Duff (Sam the detective), Hans Conried (Jerry /

Eerie sound), Paul Frees (Doctor / First Man), Wally Maher (First cop), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / 2<sup>nd</sup> Cop), Jim Backus (Police radio voice / 2<sup>nd</sup> Man)

*A horrific tale about a young couple who discover their new house contains what appears to be a ravenous werewolf.*

NOTES: Robert Taylor subbed for Cary Grant; the working title was "The House in Cypress Gardens."

The script was also performed on Bill Spier's *The Clock*, 3-18-48

Duff's role is a virtual homage to Sam Spade, Spier's concurrent radio show. Is it possible that Spier, always mischievous, didn't use the name Spade to thumb his nose at creator Dashiell Hammett, who received a payment for each *SPADE* show?

This show ranks alongside "The Hitchhiker," "Dead Ernest" and "Sorry, Wrong Number" as one of the accepted classics of *SUSPENSE*.

---

### **THEY CALL ME PATRICE (12-12-46) #222**

Author: Cornell Woolrich

Adaptation by Robert L. Richards

SUSAN PETERS (Helen, alias Patrice), Bill Johnstone (Bill Hazard), Wally Maher (Steven Jorgenson), Jeanette Nolan (Mrs. Hazard), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / Stevens / Winthrop), John McIntire (Policeman), unknown (Nurse)

*An unhappy woman, injured in a train crash, assumes a new identity.*

William Spier's 4-year marriage to Kay Thompson ends this week

---

**THE THING IN THE WINDOW  
(12-19-46) #223**

Author: Lucille Fletcher

JOSEPH COTTEN (Martin Ames), Hans Conried (Ronald), Cathy Lewis (Vivian Landis), Jeanette Nolan (Elaine Landis), Jerry Hausner (Anson, the building super), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / Police Sergeant), unknown (Mary)

*A man constantly complains of seeing a dead body seated by the window of a neighbouring apartment.*

NOTE: This script was also produced on 1-27-49

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**PHILOMEL COTTAGE (12-26-46)  
#224**

Author: Agatha Christie

Adaptation by Harold Medford

LILLI PALMER (Alix Martin), Elliott Lewis (Gerald Martin), Raymond Lawrence (George), Bill Johnstone (Signature Voice / Voice on phone), Denis Green? (Dick), Wally Maher (Police constable)

*A newly married woman thinks her husband may be trying to kill her.*

NOTES: The script was originally produced on 7-29-42 & 10-7-43

Lewis is here billed as "Raymond E. Lewis"

Announced as an upcoming guest is Alfred Hitchcock, who was to have starred in the one-man-script by Mel Dinelli based on A. M. Burrage's story "The Wax Work." This did not eventuate, and the script had to wait until 3-20-47 with Claude Rains as the star.

---

**TREE OF LIFE (1-2-47) #225**

Author: Joan Ware (billed as J. Douglas Ware)

MARK STEVENS (James Dawson), Cathy Lewis (Helen), Wally Maher (Max), Elliott Lewis (Rico), Hans Conried (Roxborough), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice), Jerry Hausner (Harvey), Sandra Gould / Bea Benaderet? (Lillian)

*A man walks in on a bungalow murder and the killers think he is the one who hired them.*

NOTES: Originally Chester Morris was to play the lead in this script

The author billed herself by the name of her recently deceased brother as a tribute.

---

**THE WILL TO POWER (1-9-47) #226**

Author: Frank Taubes

DAN DURYEA (Charles Ross), Cathy Lewis (Roseanne Donovan), Wally Maher (Lieutenant Braddon), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / John Donovan / Jailer), Howard Duff (Elevator Operator / Jury Foreman)

*A man manages to shift the blame for the murder of a tyrannical boss onto a woman.*

---

**OVERTURE IN TWO KEYS (1-16-47)  
#227**

Author: Malvin Wald

Adaptation by Pamela Wilcox

JOAN BENNETT (Franzy Whitmer-Allen), Howard Duff (Mark Allen), Bill Johnstone (Professor Ira Whitmer / Doctor), Hans Conried (Mark's manager), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / Lieutenant Scott), Wally Maher (Justice of the Peace), Jeanette Nolan (Diva / Nurse), Horace Willard (Porter)

*A woman comes to believe that her late husband, a symphony conductor, didn't die in an accident but was murdered.*

NOTE: Joan Bennett gives Duff on-air credit.

On 1-21-47 Bill Spier produced a special performance of "Sorry, Wrong Number" for Decca Records, starring Agnes Moorehead.

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### **ONE WAY STREET (1-23-47) #228**

Author: Sanford Schlesinger

Adaptation by Robert L. Richards

RODDY McDOWALL (Georgie Williams), Jeanette Nolan (Edna Williams / Girl in street), Raymond Lawrence (Uncle Bert), Wally Maher (Police constable), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / Crowd)

*A nephew returns home and begins to suspect his uncle of poisoning his aunt.*

NOTE: Nolan and Lawrence are given on-air credit.

---

### **THREE BLIND MICE (1-30-47) #229**

Author: Kenneth Pettis

Adaptation by Robert L. Richards

VAN HEFLIN (Arthur Lockwood), Cathy Lewis (Helen Conover), Bill Johnstone (Captain Gibbons), Wally Maher (Judge / Elevator Operator), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / Waiter / Harry the detective), Peggy Rea (Receptionist)

*Three unfriendly business associates become involved in suicide and foul play.*

NOTE: Cathy Lewis is given on-air credit.

---

### **END OF THE ROAD (2-6-47) #230**

Author: Irving Moore

Adaptation by Irving Moore & Robert L. Richards

GLENN FORD (Speed Evans), Cathy Lewis (Sylvia Ganlon), Wally Maher (McLean / Old man), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / Dan Ganlon), Hans Conried (Zeke / Plonski), Ken Christy (Doctor), Peggy Rea? (Operator), unknown (Operator 23)

*A car salesman kills a female customer's rich husband.*

---

### **THE THIRTEENTH SOUND (2-13-47) #231**

Authors: Cathy & Elliott Lewis

AGNES MOOREHEAD (Sally Skinner), William Johnstone (Signature Voice / Jonathan Brown), John McIntire (Mr. Gregg / Gardener), unknown (Mrs. Gregg), Wally Maher (Judge / Old Sam), Elliott Reid (Musical host / Sheriff)

*A woman kills her husband and is haunted by a sound that drives her mad.*

NOTE: James Stewart is announced as an upcoming guest at the end

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### **ALWAYS ROOM AT THE TOP (2-20-47) #232**

Author: Eleanor Beeson

ANNE BAXTER (Helen Brandt), Cathy Lewis (Marie Harris), Wally Maher (Bill Farrell), Mary Jane Croft (Jean Thornton), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / Charlie), Jack Webb (Policeman / Reporter), Paul Frees (2<sup>nd</sup> Policeman), unknown (Receptionist)

*A woman apparently ends her life but "comes back" to prove she was killed.*



NOTE: Maher and Lewis are given on-air credit.

---

### **THREE FACES AT MIDNIGHT (2-27-47) #233**

Author: John Eugene Hasty

Adaptation by Robert L. Richards

WILLIAM BENDIX (Sylvester “Muscles” Walters), Sandra Gould (Helen), Wally Maher (Tim O’Mara, alias Whiting), Hans Conried (Pete the contact man), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / Jerry the cop), Ken Christy (Mac the first detective), Jack Webb (Harry the second detective / Newsboy), Jerry Hausner (Landlord / Sam)

*A tough guy for hire is involved in blackmail.*

NOTEu: Sandra Gould is given on-air credit

---

### **ELWOOD (3-6-47) #234**

Author: Robert L. Richards

EDDIE BRACKEN (Elwood), Cathy Lewis (Miss Wilson), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / Sheriff), Wally Maher (Old man), John McIntire (Krantz), unknown (Elwood’s Mother), Betty Moran (Winifred Hawkes), Elliott Reid (Dick Wilson), Earl Keen? (Bismark the dog)

*A young man is mentally ill and may be a murderer.*

NOTES: Ken Niles’s 33<sup>rd</sup> and final show as the *SUSPENSE* commercial announcer. According to Darryl Shelton, Bracken subbed for Mickey Rooney who was originally scheduled to star.

*Daily Variety* noted that for this show Charles Vanda was the uncredited director, with Spier - billed as producer-editor - being “given a rest prescription by his medico.”

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### **YOU TAKE BALLISTICS (3-13-47) #235**

Author: Cornell Woolrich

Adaptation by Robert L. Richards

HOWARD DA SILVA (Lt. Ed Harvey), Jack Webb (Clarence Coleman), Will Wright (Captain Leffinger), Jerry Hausner (Detective Cass), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / Truehoff), Jack Kruschen (Elevator operator)

*A Detective demonstrates he can out manoeuvre an arrogant killer in a murder case.*

NOTES: Truman Bradley returns as *SUSPENSE* commercial announcer for the final 37 weeks of Roma sponsorship. According to Darryl Shelton, DaSilva replaced James Stewart, originally scheduled for the lead

This script was also produced on 11-29-48 for an unsold audition: a police drama called *The Hunters* with Victor Jory in the lead.

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### **\* THE WAXWORK (3-20-47) #236**

Author: Alfred M. Burrage

Adaptation by Mel Dinelli (uncredited)

CLAUDE RAINS (plays all roles: Narrator + Raymond Hewson + Manager + Dr. Burdette), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice)

*A one-man show in which reporter must spend the night in a wax museum.*

NOTES: This show is unavailable for review, no recording known

Originally announced for this one-man performance was Alfred Hitchcock

This script was later produced on 5-1-56 and 3-1-59

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**\* TRIAL BY JURY (3-27-47) #237**

Author: Robert L. Richards

NANCY KELLY (Hilda), Howard Duff?  
(Tommy), five others

*A lawyer is hounded by her client whom  
she marries – disastrously - so she  
commits a homicide to get rid of him.*

NOTE: This show is unavailable for  
review, no recording known

This script was also produced (again with  
Nancy Kelly in the lead) on 6-16-57.

---

**THE SWIFT RISE OF EDDIE  
ALBRIGHT (4-3-47) #238**

Authors: Roy Grandy & Robert L.  
Richards

PHIL SILVERS (Eddie Albright), Cathy  
Lewis (Millie O'Malley / Miss  
Wainwright), Frank Lovejoy (Frankie  
Maddox, alias Mason), Wally Maher  
(Police Lieutenant / Old man), Joe Kearns  
(Signature Voice / Mr. Garvey), Elliott  
Reid (Alex Henderson), Jerry Hausner  
(First hitman), Harry Lang (Second  
hitman)

*An elevator operator sees a corpse being  
sneaked out by two gangsters.*

NOTES: Originally Dennis Day was to  
star in this show, at first titled "The Rapid  
Rise of Eddie Albright."

This script was also produced on Spier's  
later *PHILIP MORRIS PLAYHOUSE*  
retitled "Going Down, Please" (1-18-49),  
starring Donald O'Connor in the role of  
Eddie.

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**COMMUNITY PROPERTY (4-10-47)  
#239**

Authors: Arthur Julian & Howard Leeds

Adaptation by Robert L. Richards

KIRK DOUGLAS (George Mason), Cathy  
Lewis (Lois Mason / Receptionist), Wally  
Maher (Dr. Alex Thorpe), Joe Kearns  
(Signature Voice / Uncle Bert), John  
McIntire (Bernard), Howard McNear  
(Officer Farley), Paul Frees (Judson /  
Druggist), Junius Matthews (John the  
Medical Examiner)

*In order to keep all of a \$50,000  
inheritance a man decides to kill his wife.*

NOTE: Cathy Lewis is given on-air credit

*SUSPENSE* is given a special citation at  
the annual George Foster Peabody Awards  
for Broadcasting, 4-15-47.

On 4-16-47, the Biow Agency announced  
Roma Wines would drop its sponsorship  
of *SUSPENSE* on May 22, ostensibly due  
to "the collapse of the wine market" and  
subsequent shrinking advertising budgets.

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**GREEN-EYED MONSTER (4-17-47)  
#240**

Authors: Elliott Lewis & Robert L.  
Richards

LLOYD NOLAN (Michael Dawson),  
Cathy Lewis (Judy Dawson), Wally Maher  
(Tommy Castle), Joe Kearns (Signature  
Voice / Sergeant O'Connor), unknown  
(Ethel)

*A businessman learns that his ex-wife's  
body was found in his stolen car.*

NOTE: Cathy Lewis is given on-air credit

*SUSPENSE* gets a 13-weeks reprieve from  
the announced May 22 cancellation by  
Schenley's Roma Wines

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## **WIN, PLACE AND MURDER (4-24-47) #241**

Author: Emile C. Tepperman

Adaptation by Richard Breen

RICHARD CONTE (Chris Draper), Cathy Lewis (Laura Lee), Wally Maher (Mike Farrago), Hans Conried (Pilsen), Sidney Miller (Lieutenant Herbie Knapp), Dick Ryan (Policeman), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice), unknown (Receptionist), unknown (Pilsen's secretary)

*A gambling private eye is involved in a homicide case and the corpse goes missing.*

NOTE: Wally Maher is given on-air credit

Schedule change: Thursdays, 7:00 to 7:30 pm ET
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## **LADY IN DISTRESS (5-1-47) #242**

Author: John Michael Hayes

AVA GARDNER (Evelyn Harris), Howard Duff (Sullivan), Wally Maher (Ralph Harris), Frank Albertson (Diner Man), Ted Reid (Motorcycle cop), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / Sergeant Thompson), Lurene Tuttle (Operator), Orson Welles (Gas station guy: GAG CAMEO)

*A woman picks up a hitchhiking murderer and gets him to kill her husband.*

NOTES: Orson Welles was written into the show by Spier as an in-joke (Welles accompanied Ava Gardner to CBS and sat in).

This was the first show featuring a hitch-hike commercial at the tag end for Cresta Blanca wines (the announcer for these spots was Art Balinger)

Howard Duff is given on-air credit.

Ava Gardner announces *SUSPENSE* will receive the Peabody Foundation Award for "excellence in drama."

<i>[First script in the Thousand Oaks Library collection to feature a front cast page. All shows with cast pages are highlighted in yellow through the end of the Auto-Lite era in mid-1954; all remaining Hollywood shows through 1959 have a cast page, though many are still waiting to be scanned by the author. Blame Covid.]</i>
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## **DEAD ERNEST (5-8-47) #243**

Authors: Seeleg Lester & Merwyn Gerard

Wally Maher (Lieutenant Steve Healey / Bystander), Lester Jay (Payne), Howard Duff (Officer Abbott), Junius Matthews (Witness / Ernest Bowers), Bill Johnstone (Signature Voice / Bystander / Dr. Weldon the coroner), Elliott Reid (Tobin / Anthony the 2<sup>nd</sup> embalmer), Conrad Binyon (Bob Minelli), Joel Davis (Tommy Stoner), Jay Novello (Minelli / Clerk), Sidney Miller (Honest Jerry Murdock), Elliott Lewis (Henry Prince), Cathy Lewis (Frances Prince / Mrs. Bowers), Jeanette Nolan (Mrs. Raleigh the landlady), Peggy Rea (Honey, the coroner's nurse), Jerry Hausner (Al Beniton)

*A man who suffers from the condition of catalepsy is about to be embalmed.*

NOTES: This script was originally produced on 8-8-46.

David Niven was unable to play the lead, so Wally Maher repeated his earlier performance.

At the end of this show CBS President Don Thornburg announces *SUSPENSE* was the winner of a 1946 Peabody Award citation (for the 8-8-46 production of "Dead Ernest"), broadcasting's highest.

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**DEATH AT LIVE OAK (5-15-47) #244**

Authors: Robert E. Lee & E. Jack Neuman

ROBERT MITCHUM (David Sutherland), Mary Jane Croft (Diana Melville, nee Blake), Jerry Hausner (Elevator Operator), Bill Johnstone (Hotel clerk), Wally Maher (Detective / Man in elevator), Hans Conried (Philippe the waiter), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / Flight controller), Peggy Rea (Operator), unknown (Rex Melville)

*A woman decides to get her estranged husband killed by a man who is practically his double.*

NOTE: Mary Jane Croft is given on-air credit

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**KNIGHT COMES RIDING (5-22-47) #245**

Author: Pamela Wilcox

VIRGINIA BRUCE (Mildred Anderson), Howard Duff (Duncan Shaw), Wally Maher (Ed Anderson), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice)

*A woman's husband kills his nephew, and his wife seeks the company of a handyman and war veteran.*

NOTES: Duff and Maher are given on-air credit

The working title was "My Knight Comes Riding."

---

**A THING OF BEAUTY (5-29-47) #246**

Author: Elizabeth Hiestand-Heisch

Adaptation by Robert L. Richards

ANGELA LANSBURY (Madeleine Tremaine), Cathy Lewis (Nell Garrett), Hans Conried (Alec Duncan), Elliott Reid (Reverend Sedley), Raymond Lawrence (Scotland Yard inspector), Herbert Rawlinson (Reverend Benton), Nanette Vallon (Suzette), Elliott Lewis (Stage Doorman / Middle signature voice), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / John Gaylord)

*An actress threatens a playwright who is found dead that same night.*

NOTES: This script was originally produced on 12-28-44; Joe Kearns plays a large role, so Bill Spier had Elliott Lewis play the signature voice in the middle break (except Kearns still says the show title "Suspense!" - see the show of 8-2-45 for a similar situation)

---

**MAKE MAD THE GUILTY (6-5-47) #247**

Author: Robert Rossen

Adaptation by Irving Moore & Robert L. Richards

HUME CRONYN (Bert Matthews), Bea Benaderet (Elizabeth Matthews), Gerald Mohr (Longstreet), Jerry Hausner (Checking station guard), Elliott Reid (Florist), Wally Maher (District Attorney / Prison clerk), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / Prison guard / 1<sup>st</sup> cop), Dick Ryan (Judge / 2nd cop), Peggy Rea (Telegram girl), unknown (Jury Foreman)

*A has-been actor pretends to be dead in order to cash in on an insurance policy.*

---

**STAND-IN (6-12-47) #248**

Author: Pamela Wilcox

Adaptation by Robert L. Richards

JUNE HAVOC (Diana Burke), Elliott Lewis (Dennis O'Brien), Hans Conried (Director), Wally Maher (Assistant director / Gate Guard), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / Crew member), Jerry Hausner (Photographer / Studio guard), Elliott Reid (Jensen / Lieutenant Malone), Henry Blair (Boy), Cathy Lewis (Madame Maggie), Frank Albertson (Michael)

*A movie actress's husband plots to kill her, using her stand-in for his alibi.*

NOTES: Star June Havoc was now dating Bill Spier (they would marry six months later).

Spier travelled to New York for a month, to direct the *SAM SPADE* show while Howard Duff was on location filming the Hellinger Productions movie "*THE NAKED CITY*." Music director Lud Gluskin accompanied Spier on the trip.

While Spier was in transit the *SPADE* show of 6-15-47 was directed by Elliott Lewis.

---

**DEAD OF NIGHT (6-19-47) #249**

Author: Mel Dinelli

Elliott Reid (Jimmy Barden), Cathy Lewis (Helen), Wally Maher (Slugger Vanda), Anne Stone (Mrs. Gordon), Colleen Collins (Tough kid), Henry Blair (First boy), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice), Berne Surrey, Carl Schaele (Ad-Libs)

*A brother helps his sister to move the body of her deceased husband.*

NOTES: This script was also performed on 11-16-44, titled "The Dead of the Night."

Series creator Charles Vanda was substitute director on this show, hence the in-joke name of the character played by Maher.

Bill Spier was in New York City prepping the first of four *SAM SPADE* shows as well as *SUSPENSE*.

---

**PHOBIA (6-26-47) #250**

Author: Joal Hunt

EVA LE GALLIENNE (Emily Haydon), Nell Harrison? (Grace Haydon), Amzie Strickland? (Anna the maid), Ian Martin (Henry Lane), Ted de Corsia (Scorchy Wood the burglar), unknown (Sergeant Cole), unknown (Police inspector), Berry Kroeger (Signature Voice)

*A woman in a wheelchair suffers from an aversion to metallic objects, and she must fight off a dangerous burglar.*

NOTES: This and the next two *SUSPENSE* shows originate from New York, with Spier also producing four *SAM SPADE* shows while Howard Duff was in Manhattan shooting "*THE NAKED CITY*."

Frank Gallop subs for Truman Bradley as the Roma Wines commercial voice.

One source lists John McIntire and Jeanette Nolan in the cast. This is questionable.

This script was also performed on *Murder by Experts* (9-11-50)

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**MONEY TALKS (7-3-47) #251**

Author: Robert L. Richards

ALAN BAXTER (Cliff Goff, alias Clarence Gage), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / Mr. Purley), Alice Frost (Anita Willoughby, nee Gorman), Frank Readick (Sam Gorman), Murray Forbes



(Detective), unknown (Miss Logan),  
unknown (Mr. Ambrose)

Roma Wines announcer: Frank Gallop

*A bank teller has long been planning a robbery but a secretary is on to him.*

NOTES: The opening Cresta Blanca announcement is by Ken Roberts.

Actor Joe Kearns is in New York for this and the next *SUSPENSE* (and likely the two remaining *SAM SPADE* shows). He stays back East for summer vacation, returning to the show in Hollywood on 8-7-47.

The CBS series *ESCAPE* premiered from Hollywood on July 7<sup>th</sup>.

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### **MURDER BY THE BOOK (7-10-47) #252**

Author: Pamela Wilcox

Adaptation by Robert L. Richards

GLORIA SWANSON (Emily Carlyle), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / Lieutenant Hahn), Berry Kroeger (Harry Bailey), Julie Stevens? (Cora Wales), June Havoc (Clara), unknown (Store clerk), unknown (Morton the mechanic)

Roma Wines announcer: Frank Gallop

Cresta Blanca announcer: Ken Roberts

*A writer of mysteries is asked by her agent to become entwined in a real life murder.*

NOTES: Ms Swanson was not a natural radio talent.

Pamela Wilcox did not receive credit, but according to John Scheinfeld she provided the original story.

The final *SAM SPADE* show originating from Manhattan aired on 7-13-47, and Spier was back in Hollywood in time to direct the next *SUSPENSE*.

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### **\* BEYOND GOOD AND EVIL (7-17-47) #253**

Author: Ben Hecht

Adaptation by Douglas Whitney

VINCENT PRICE (Dr. Howard Pierce, alias Philip Gentry), Bea Benaderet (Mary), Jerry Hausner (Mac), Victor Rodman (Officer Owens), Bill Johnstone (Signature Voice), Frank Albertson (Tom Hubbard), Cathy Lewis (Lucy McKillop), Norman Field (Rev. McKillop), Ted Reid (Reverend Pierce)

*A jail escapee disguises himself as a man of the cloth.*

NOTES: This script was originally produced on 10-11-45

This show is unavailable for review, with no recording known

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### **MURDER BY AN EXPERT (7-24-47) #254**

Author: John Shaw

LYNN BARI (Edith Reid), Hans Conried (Bob Reid), Jerry Hausner (Joseph), Wally Maher (George Lee), Sidney Miller (Lieutenant Meldrum), Jack Webb (Detective), Dick Ryan (Jimmy Reid), Bill Johnstone (Signature Voice / Waiter)

*A dancer kills her husband and her brother-in-law is suspected.*

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### **MORTMAIN (7-31-47) #255**

Authors: George & Gertrude Fass

JEROME COWAN (Sam Boston), Cathy Lewis (Alice Perry), Wally Maher (Screed), Bill Johnstone (Signature Voice / George Perry), Ken Christy (Police Chief Martin), Norman Field (Judge), Dick Ryan (D. A. / Foreman), Jerry Hausner (Court clerk), Junius Matthews (Doctor)

*Law partners fall out over ambitions and a woman and double cross each other.*

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**QUIET DESPERATION (8-7-47) #256**

Authors: George & Gertrude Fass

WALTER ABEL (Homer Bigelow), Cathy Lewis (Hester Vail), Wally Maher (John Pearson), Will Wright (Corbin Vandergriff), Jerry Hausner (Desk clerk), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / Emil), Frank Albertson (Scott)

*A man after quick money is involved with a crime, but then a murder occurs.*

NOTE: Cathy Lewis is given on-air credit

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**SMILEY (8-14-47) #257**

Author: Charles Glenn

DONALD O'CONNOR (Gerald "Smiley" Smythe), Lurene Tuttle (Cookie), Sidney Miller (Curly), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / Judge), Lucille Meredith (Scared woman), Bill Johnstone (U-Drive man / Bystander), sound men Gene Twombly & Carl Schaele (crowd Ad-Libs)

*A young dishwasher gets out of prison and displays an uncontrollable rage towards women.*

NOTES: Originally Elliott Reid was announced to play the title role of this show on 6-19-47.

Lurene Tuttle & Sidney Miller are given on-air credit

---

**MURDER ABOARD THE ALPHABET (8-21-47) #258**

Author: Charles Turrell

JOHN LUND (First Mate Marshland), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / Captain Godfrey Walker), Raymond Lawrence (Higgins), Bill Johnstone (Chief engineer Alec McTavish), Sidney Miller (2<sup>nd</sup> mate

Harvey Goodrem), Jerry Hausner (Chadwick)

*An obsessive ship's captain makes his crew perform their duties according to the alphabet.*

NOTE: This script was later produced on 1-6-55

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**DOUBLE UGLY (8-28-47) #259**

Author: George Lloyd

LLOYD NOLAN (Matthew Everman, the narrator), June Havoc (Sally Mason / Taunting song / Matthew's mother), Sandra Gould (Hazel), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / Host of masked ball), Wally Maher ("Handsome" / Lefty), Jerry Hausner (Plant worker), Frank Albertson (Reporter), unknown (Teenage girl), unknown (Dog)

*All his life a man has been taunted for being unattractive. A woman takes pity and marries him.*

NOTE: This script was previously performed on *The Columbia Workshop*, 11-30-41 (produced by Bill Spier)

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**THE ARGYLE ALBUM (9-4-47) #260**

Autor: Cyril Endfield

EDMOND O'BRIEN (Mitchell), Wally Maher (Alan Peers / Haggerty), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / Mr. Winter, alias Gerald Avery), Lurene Tuttle (Marla / Secretary), Harry Lang (Lt. "Horse-lip" Samson), Jerry Hausner (Melvin "Pinky" Pincus), Hans Conried (Jor Brod), Eric Snowdon (Dr. Van Selvin), Joe Granby (Gil), Peggy Rea (Nurse)

*A reporter finds the rare and valuable Argyle Album but dies of a heart attack soon after.*

NOTE: This script was originally produced on 12-13-45

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**THE TWIST (9-11-47) #261**

Author: Bafe Blau

MICHAEL O'SHEA (Gus Green), Wally Maher (Nick Edwards), Olive Deering (Julie Phelps), Sidney Miller (Van Hauser), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / Inspector Martin), Frank Albertson (Voice)

*A radio author specializing in comedy writes a perfect murder story.*

NOTE: Sidney Miller is given on-air credit

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**THE VISITOR (9-18-47) #262**

Authors: Carl Randau & Leane Zugsmith

Adaptation by Robert L. Richards

DONALD O'CONNOR (Bud Owen), Cathy Lewis (Ellen Woods), Wally Maher (David Cunningham), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / Mac Berle), Jack Edwards, Jr. (Joe), Verna Felton (Judith Cunningham), Myra Marsh (Mrs. Callahan), Frank Albertson (Dr. Sterling), Jerry Hausner (Al), Peggy Rea (Mary-Louise)

*A young man, long presumed dead, returns to his hometown but some people think he's an impostor.*

NOTES: This script was also produced on 5-11-44

This was Peggy Rea's final appearance... Spier's secretary for four years, she left to work for his ex-wife Kay Thompson in a live revue, and to further her stalled acting career.

While in Las Vegas for an engagement at The Flamingo Hotel, Kay Thompson officially divorces Bill Spier on 9-23-47
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**THE BLUE HOUR (9-25-47) #263**

Author: Marty Schwartz

CLAIRE TREVOR (Lois LePaul), Wally Maher (Alec Mahoney), Hans Conried (Anthony Lacatta), Jack Edwards, Jr. (Jason White), Jerry Hausner (First reporter), Dick Ryan (Reporter), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice), sound men Berne Surrey & Gus Bayz (ad-libs)

*A nightclub dancer's dreams of success are overshadowed by her husband's murder, which she witnessed.*

Schedule change to Thursdays, 8:00-8:30 pm ET
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**THE STORY OF MARKHAM'S DEATH (10-2-47) #264**

Author: Bob Platt

KIRK DOUGLAS (Phil Martin), Cathy Lewis (Anne Fleming), Wally Maher (Lieutenant John Kirkland / 3<sup>rd</sup> critic), Eric Snowdon (Dr. Sellgrove), Verna Felton (English Woman), Raymond Lawrence (English Man), Jerry Hausner (Henry), Frank Albertson (Awards host / First critic), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / Cab Driver / 2<sup>nd</sup> critic)

*A hack writer finds an unpublished Poe story and decides to plagiarise the master.*

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**THE MAN WHO LIKED DICKENS (10-9-47) #265**

Author: Evelyn Waugh

Adaptation by Richard Breen

RICHARD NEY (Anthony Last), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / Mr. Todd), Eric Snowdon (Dr. Messinger), Tony Ellis (The stranger), Hans Conried (Missionary)



*A young explorer is trapped in the jungle by a mad man who has an insatiable fetish for Charles Dickens novels.*

NOTES: The script was later produced on the *ESCAPE* series (12-21-52)

Joe Kearns is given on-air credit

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### **SELF DEFENSE (10-16-47) #266**

Authors: Arthur Julian & Howard Leeds

MARSHA HUNT (Barbara Newall), Gerald Mohr (Alex Maynard), Wally Maher (Fred Dexter), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / Jonathan Newhall), Lurene Tuttle (Mimi Carlyle)

*A woman wants out of her marriage and entices a younger man to kill her husband.*

NOTE: In Bill Spier's absence, series creator Charles Vanda directed this show (an in-joke in the script: "We're having dinner with the Vanda's tonight")\_

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### **THE X-RAY CAMERA (10-23-47) #267**

Authors: George & Gertrude Fass

DENNIS O'KEEFE (John [alias Jim] Lawrence), Cathy Lewis (Anna Lawrence), Lurene Tuttle (Joyce), Wally Maher (Inspector Brodie), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / Granger)

*A man seeks revenge on his wife by planting a grenade in a "camera."*

NOTE: Cathy Lewis and Lurene Tuttle are given on-air credit

*SUSPENSE* is to be dropped by Roma Wines after 11-20-47, according to a trade item

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### **SUBWAY (10-30-47) #268**

Author: Eileen Walzer

Adaptation by Mel Dinelli

JUNE HAVOC (Paula Stevens), Lurene Tuttle (Ruth Carney), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / Train passenger with cigar), Dolores Crane, Berne Surrey, Richard-George Pedicini, Gus Bayz, Bob Young, Bud Widom, Adele Sliff, Naomi Scher (sounds and crowd ad-libs)

*An unsuccessful actress meets a rival on the subway and becomes consumed by murderous envy.*

NOTE: Lurene Tuttle is given on-air credit

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### **DREAM SONG (11-6-47) #269**

Authors: George Bellak & Ben Kerner

HENRY MORGAN (Charles Kenyon), Wally Maher (Inspector Sam Fields), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / Torsten the janitor), Frank Albertson (Policeman), Grace Gillern (Operator)

*A writer keeps hearing annoying music that may be associated with homicides.*

NOTE: Maher & Kearns are given on-air credit

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**RIABOUCHINSKA (11-13-47) #270**

Author: Ray Bradbury

Adaptation by Mel Dinelli

ARMANA FYGAY aka JUNE HAVOC (Narrator), Joe Kearns (John Fabian / Signature Voice), Wally Maher (Detective Lieutenant Krobic), Lurene Tuttle (Riabouchinska / Ilya), Jerry Hausner ("Sweet William"), Frances Robinson (Alice Fabian), Byron Kane (Bernard Douglas)

*An unhinged ventriloquist is a murder suspect.*

NOTES: Tuttle, Kearns and Maher get on-air credit. The story's title is mispronounced as "Riaboushinskee" by Truman Bradley (the correct pronunciation is on the AFRS version, by a different announcer)

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**ONE HUNDRED IN THE DARK (11-20-47) #271**

Author: Owen Johnson

Adaptation by Jacques Anson Finke

HOWARD DUFF (Mr. Peters / Mr. Harris), Theresa Marshall [aka June Havoc] (Rita Kildare), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / Quinney), Wally Maher (Flanders), John McIntire (Rankin), Dick Ryan (Irish club member / Stanley Cheever), Frank Albertson (Steingard), Mary Jane Croft (Mrs. Cheever), Horace Willard (John, club waiter), Jerry Hausner (Enos-Jackson), Jeanette Nolan (Mrs. Jackson), Grace Gillern (Maude Lyle)

*A society party's guests are forbidden to leave until the hostess gets back her valuable stolen ring.*

NOTES: All the cast members were given credit by commercial announcer Truman Bradley, whose final *SUSPENSE* show this was.

It is also the last of 205 Roma Wines-Schenley sponsored shows. *SUSPENSE* returns in eight days for a limited sustaining run of five weeks, each a new production of an earlier script, while preparations were underway for its conversion to a one-hour drama format in 1948.

This script was originally produced on 9-30-42

Schedule change: move to Fridays, 9:30-10:00 pm ET
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# SUSPENSE

## SHORT SEASON, END

### 1947, SUSTAINED

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#### **THE PIT AND THE PENDULUM** (11-28-47) #272

Author: Edgar Allan Poe

Adaptation by John Dickson Carr

JOSE FERRER (Jean D'Albret), John McIntire (Pedro Espila, the Grand Inquisitor), Jeanette Nolan (Beatrix Valdez), Elliott Lewis (Antonio, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Inquisitor), Eric Snowden (Clerk of Court), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / 3<sup>rd</sup> voice), Paul McVey (Braunton, the 4<sup>th</sup> voice), Lucille Jones, Jack Kelly, Dick Pedicini, Corinne Scott (Ad-lib Murmurs)

*Edgar Allan Poe's grim tale of horrific torture during the Spanish Inquisition.*

NOTE: This script was also produced on 1-12-43, 11-10-57 and 6-7-59

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#### **THE CLOCK AND THE ROPE** (12-5-47) #273

Author: Louis Pollock

JACKIE COOPER (Henry Gilford), Cathy Lewis (Judy), Elliott Lewis (Joe / Executioner), Wally Maher (Warden Barnes / Trolley driver), John McIntire (District Attorney), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / McGill), Lester Jay (Foreman / Richards), Jack Kruschen (Detective Lt.), Junius Matthews (Bailey Hall / Minister), Paul McVey (Judge / Governor)

*A man is sentenced to hang for a crime he didn't commit.*

NOTES: This script was originally produced on 5-9-46

Earlier, a different script for Jackie Cooper was announced for this date, "For Love or Murder" by John Shaw. However that script wouldn't be produced for two more years (airing on 12-8-49, starring Mickey Rooney)

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#### **THE MAN WHO COULDN'T LOSE** (12-12-47) #274

Author: Emil C. Tepperman

DAN DURYEA (Leonard Snell), Lucille Meredith (Celia Snell), Cathy Lewis (Nurse), Jeanette Nolan (Mrs. Mossley / Waitress / Frantic woman), John McIntire (Police Lieutenant / Man), Elliott Lewis (Conductor / Debt collector / Bystander), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / Old Man Mossley / Photographer / Waiter), Jerry Hausner (Floyd Heustis / Bar patron), Frank Albertson (Police Officer), Jack Kruschen (Officer Maloney / Bystander), Dick Ryan (Man in diner), Hans Conried (Charlie the bartender / Syndicate man), Edwin Max (2<sup>nd</sup> debt collector), Frank Goss (Radio newsreader), Jack Webb (Bus passenger)

*A debt-ridden salesman is the victim of multiple twists of fate, and has also committed a murder.*

NOTE: This script was originally produced on 9-28-44

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**\* WET SATURDAY (12-19-47) #275**

Author: John Collier

Adaptation by Harold Medford

BORIS KARLOFF (Frederick Princey),  
June Havoc (Millie Princey), Hans  
Conried (George Princey), John McIntire  
(Captain Smollet), Jeanette Nolan (Mrs.  
Princey), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice /  
Policeman), Jerry Hausner, Wally Maher,  
Harry Lang

*A family calmly covers up any hint of a  
murder the daughter has committed.*

NOTE: This script was also produced on  
6-24-42, 12-16-43 and 3-20-48

This show is unavailable for review, with  
no recording known

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**TOO LITTLE TO LIVE ON (12-26-47)  
#276**

Author: Robert L. Richards

OZZIE NELSON (Dr. David O'Connor),  
HARRIET HILLIARD (NELSON)  
(Myra), Joe Kearns (Uncle Ed / Signature  
Voice), Frank Albertson (Mr. Herman the  
druggist), Jerry Hausner (Eldridge / Willie  
the dog), Wally Maher (Officer Clancy)

*A couple try to do away with their  
maddeningly irritating Uncle.*

NOTES: This script was originally  
produced on 2-7-46.

William Spier appears at show's end to  
announce the new *SUSPENSE* one-hour  
format, to commence January 3, 1948.

Schedule change to Saturdays, 8:00- 9:00 pm ET
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# SUSPENSE

## HOURLONG FORMAT, 1948

Host, ROBERT MONTGOMERY

Announcer: Bob Stevenson

Network announcer: James Matthews

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### THE BLACK CURTAIN (1-3-48) #277

Author: Cornell Woolrich

Newly adapted by Jo Eisinger

ROBERT MONTGOMERY (Series host / Frank Townsend alias Danny Nearing), Lurene Tuttle (Ruth Dillon), Cathy Lewis (Ada Dietrich), Jeanette Nolan (Mrs. Hudson the landlady), Sidney Miller (Pop the store-keep / Irish policeman), Conrad Binyon (Boy), Jack Kruschen (Doctor / SP guard), William Conrad ("Gray Eyes" the detective), Jerry Hausner (Elevator operator), Paul Frees (Dengler / Guard), Ira Grossel (Franklin Dietrich / Conductor), Junius Matthews (Mr. April the station master), Harry Lang (Accident bystander), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / Old man)

*A man with amnesia must try to clear himself of a murder charge while trying to regain his identity.*

NOTES: The first "long form" show runs 55 minutes, followed by a 5-minute newscast (all subsequent shows in this series run the full hour).

Half hour versions of this script were produced on 12-2-43 & 11-30-44

William Spier is heard at the end

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### THE KANDY TOOTH (1-10-48) #278

Authors: Bob Tallman & Jason James (aka Jo Eisinger)

HOWARD DUFF (Sam Spade), Lurene Tuttle (Effie Perrine), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / Casper Gutman), Cathy Lewis (Hope Laverne), Wally Maher (Lawrence Laverne), Jay Novello (Joel Cairo), Jeanette Nolan (Mrs. Julius), Jack Edwards, Jr. (Herman Julius / Mortuary attendant), Sidney Miller (Documentary narrator), Hans Conried (Marvin / Don Constantino), Bill Johnstone (Lieutenant Dundy), Robert Montgomery (Series host / Philip Marlowe)

*Sam Spade has another visit from his "Maltese Falcon" nemesis, Casper Gutman.*

NOTES: Originally presented as a two-part story on *THE ADVENTURES OF SAM SPADE*, 11-24 & 12-1-46. Series host Robert Montgomery does a cameo as Philip Marlowe, an in-joke reference to his portrayal of the Chandler detective in the recent 1947 film *THE LADY IN THE LAKE*.

William Spier is heard at the end.

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## LOVE'S LOVELY COUNTERFEIT (1-17-48) #279

Author: James M. Cain

Adaptation by Robert L. Richards &  
expanded by Jason James (aka Jo Eisinger)

JAMES CAGNEY (Ben Grace), Cathy  
Lewis (June Lyons / Operator), Wally  
Maher (Lefty Gauss), Sidney Miller (Sol  
Casper), Howard McNear (Yates), Bill  
Johnstone (Department of Justice man /  
Jansen), Lurene Tuttle (Mrs. Lyons /  
Nurse), Jack Kruschen (Joe Cantrell /  
Gang member), Ken Christy (Police  
Chief), Will Wright (District Attorney),  
Jerry Hausner (Johnny), Joe Kearns  
(Signature Voice / Archie / Doctor)

*A hood helps a crooked politician and gets  
to run the gambling rackets.*

Robert Montgomery (Series host)

NOTES: The original half-hour script was  
produced on 3-8-45

Author James M. Cain is a guest at the  
closing.

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## THE BLACK ANGEL (1-24-48) #280

Author: Cornell Woolrich

Adaptation by Robert L. Richards  
expanded by Sebastian Moriarty (aka  
William Spier)

JUNE HAVOC (Eve Jeremy), Bill  
Johnstone (Signature Voice / Frank  
Jeremy), Wally Maher (Jerry Jordan /  
Foreman), Jack Moyles (Lieutenant Trout),  
Michael Romanoff (Himself), Lurene  
Tuttle (Shirley / Girl), Jack Kruschen  
(Detective Brennan / Prosecutor), Dick  
Ryan (Judge / Prison guard), Jerry Hausner  
(Mort / Pawnbroker), Frank Albertson  
(Jack Gordon), Alan Reed (Benedict /  
Brown Derby waiter)

Robert Montgomery (Series host)

*After a movie producer husband and his  
actress wife argue, the husband is arrested  
on suspicion of murder.*

NOTES: Original half hour version was  
produced on 10-19-44, under the title  
“Eve.” At one point in the show this longer  
version is also referred to by the title  
“Eve.”

The day after this broadcast Spier and June  
Havoc were married. It is announced that  
Spier will depart *Suspense* and move to  
ABC to direct *The Clock* when it becomes  
a West Coast program.

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## \* BET WITH DEATH (1-31-48) #281

Author: John Dickson Carr

Newly adapted by Les Crutchfield

LEE BOWMAN (Robert Penderel), OTTO  
KRUGER (John Destry) [other roles:  
Mary, Inspector Mullen, Police Sergeant,  
Narrator]

*An uncle makes a strange \$25,000 bet with  
his nephew that he could kill him within  
half a year.*

Robert Montgomery (Series host)

NOTES: This show was produced and  
directed by William N. Robson in Spier's  
absence. The original half-hour version  
was performed on 11-10-42 as “Will You  
Make a Bet with Death?”

This show is unavailable for review, no  
recording known

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**DONOVAN'S BRAIN (2-7-48) #282**

Author: Curt Siodmak

Adaptation by Robert L. Richards

John McIntire (Patrick Corey / W. H. Donovan), Jeanette Nolan (Janice), Alma Lawton (Nurse), Bill Martel (David Corey), Wally Maher (Dr. Schrott), Bill Johnstone (Man), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice)

*A doctor experiments on a deceased tycoon's brain, intending to keep it alive.*

Robert Montgomery (Series host)

NOTES: The original version was performed in two parts on 5-18 & 5-25-44.

This was the last of 277 *SUSPENSE* shows produced by William Spier who leaves due to creative differences over the new format.

---

**THE LODGER (2-14-48) #283**

Author: Marie Belloc-Lowndes

Adaptation by Robert Tallman

ROBERT MONTGOMERY (Narrator & Mr. Sleuth / Series host), Jeanette Nolan (Ellen Bunting), Peggy Webber (Daisy Bunting), Raymond Lawrence (Joe Chandler), Bill Johnstone (Coronial Judge / Signature Voice), Wally Maher (Coroner / Mr. Cannot), Noreen Gamill (Lizzie), unknown (Newsboy)

*A religiously fanatic tenant is soon suspected of being London's infamous Slasher killer.*

NOTES: Originally produced on 7-22-40 as part of *FORECAST* (in which Noreen Gamill, a member of this show's cast, played the larger role of Ellen Bunting) and again on 12-14-44.

This show was produced and directed by William N. Robson who was the interim director while the program awaited the arrival of Bill Spier's replacement, Anton Leader (whom CBS appointed and transplanted from New York)

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**BEYOND REASON (2-21-48) #284**

Author: Devery Freeman

ROBERT RYAN (Harry Newton), RUTH WARRICK (Vangie Carr), Joan Banks (Grace Carr), Berry Kroeger (Witness / Gurney), Harald Dyrenforth (Dr. Rupert), Bill Johnstone (Signature Voice / Leonard Walden), Franc Hale (Aunt Martha), Dick Ryan (Lawyer / Erin, the gardener), Peggy Webber (Suzie Carr), Gail Bonney (Bystander)

Robert Montgomery (Series host)

*Three daughters inherit their late father's fortune but meet a man claiming to be his business partner.*

NOTE: The first of 63 *SUSPENSE* shows produced and directed by Anton M. Leader, previously director of New York radio shows like *MURDER AT MIDNIGHT* and *RADIO READER'S DIGEST*.

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**THE HOUSE BY THE RIVER (2-28-48) #285**

Author: A. P. Herbert

Adaptation by Irving Ravetch

John McIntire (Steven Burns), Dan O'Herlihy (John Burns), Eric Snowdon (Police Inspector), Raymond Lawrence (Henry Dimple / Police phone operator), Bill Johnstone (Signature Voice / Club member), Jeanette Nolan (Mrs. Ambrose), Berry Kroeger (Coroner), unknown actors as Marjorie / Emily Gaunt / Muriel / Mrs. Beech / Jury foreman)



Robert Montgomery (Series host)

*A poet and his brother dispose of a maid's body after one of them accidentally kills her.*

---

**IN A LONELY PLACE (3-6-48) #286**

Author: Dorothy B. Hughes

Adaptation by Irving Ravetch

ROBERT MONTGOMERY (Dixon Steele / Series host), Charles Victor (Brub Nicolai), Lurene Tuttle (Sylvia / Jean), Kay Brinker (Laurel), Herb Butterfield (Chief Lochner), Bill Johnstone (Signature Voice / Officer), Sidney Miller (Malcolm)

*A bad-tempered writer spends the evening with a hat-check girl who turns up dead the next morning.*

NOTE: A film based on this story was released in 1950 by Columbia, starring Humphrey Bogart

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**NIGHTMARE (3-13-48) #287**

Author: William Irish, aka Cornell Woolrich ("And So To Death")

Adaptation by Alfred Palca

EDDIE BRACKEN (Vince Hardy), William Conrad (Cliff Dodge), Ruth Perrott (Lil Dodge / Niece), Berry Kroeger (Fleming), Bill Johnstone (Signature Voice / Waiter / Police Chief Wagner), Eleanor Audley (Female voice in dream / Telegram clerk), Herb Vigran (Deputy), Bert Holland (stand-in for Bracken)

Robert Montgomery (Series host)

*A man keeps dreaming of a murder that might have actually occurred.*

On 3-18-48, William Spier commenced an 11-week cycle directing the ABC radio mystery *THE CLOCK*, beginning with "The House in Cypress Canyon,"

previously produced by Spier on *SUSPENSE*, 12-5-46

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**WET SATURDAY & AUGUST HEAT (3-20-48) #288**

(First half) "WET SATURDAY"

Author: John Collier

Adaptation by Harold Medford

Robert Montgomery (Series host)

Dennis Hoey (Frederick Princey), Doris Kemper (Mrs. Princey), Gloria Anne Simpson (Millicent Princey), Hans Conried (George Princey), Erik Rolf (Captain Smollett), Alec Harford (Sergeant Yancy), Bill Johnstone (Signature Voice / Constable Martin)

*A family calmly attempts to cover up a murder by committed by the daughter.*

NOTE: This script was originally produced on 6-24-42, 12-16-43 & 12-19-47

(Second half) "AUGUST HEAT"

Author: W. F. Harvey

Adaptation by Mel Dinelli

Berry Kroeger (James Clarence Withencroft), Dennis Hoey (Charles Atkinson), Jeanette Nolan (Mrs. Maria Atkinson), Alma Lawton (Cockney boy)

*An artist meets a man he has earlier sketched, and the man predicts the artist's death.*

NOTE: This script was originally produced on 5-31-45

On 3-24-48 a deal was firmed for Electric Auto-Lite Company to sponsor *SUSPENSE* starting on 7-8-48



On 3-25-48 Spier produced "Hazel & Charlie" for *THE CLOCK*

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### **NIGHT MUST FALL (3-27-48) #289**

Author: Emlyn Williams

Adaptation by Robert L. Richards

ROBERT MONTGOMERY (Series host / Danny), DAME MAY WHITTY (Mrs. Bramson), HEATHER ANGEL (Olivia Grayle), RICHARD NEY (Hubert Lowery), MATTHEW BOULTON (Inspector Belsize), Peggy Webber (Dora Parker), Jeanette Nolan (The Cook), Bill Johnstone (Signature Voice)

Bob Stevenson (Announcer)

*A bossy old woman likes a new boarder but her niece suspects he is involved with a brutal murder.*

NOTE: The first five cast members are from the original 1937 film; this story was originally planned as a half hour drama for the early 1942 *SUSPENSE* summer run by Charles Vanda and Harold Medford but was not produced at that time.

On 4-1-48 Spier produced "House of Beauty" for *THE CLOCK*

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### **SUSPICION (4-3-48) #290**

Author: Dorothy L. Sayers

Adaptation by Irving Ravetch

SAM JAFFE (Edward Mummery), Lurene Tuttle (Ethel Mummery), Alan Reed (Brooks), Bill Johnstone (Signature Voice / John), Gloria Gordon (Mrs. Sutton), Ramsay Hill (Dr. Maysbury), Berry Kroeger (Dimthorpe the chemist), unknown (Mrs. Andrews), Doris Kemper? (Mrs. Wellbeck), unknown (Thomas), unknown (Vicki)

Robert Montgomery (Series host)

Bob Stevenson (Narrator / Announcer)

*A newly hired cook may be a notorious poisoner, and the man who hired her grows suspicious.*

NOTES: This was Montgomery's final appearance as host of the one-hour series

Jaffe was a replacement for Boris Karloff, originally intended for the lead.

This script was originally produced on 8-12-42 & 2-10-44

On 4-8-48 Spier produced "John Barbey and Son" for *THE CLOCK*. That story was also produced twice on *SUSPENSE*: 2-22-45 & 3-29-59

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### **CROSSFIRE (4-10-48) #291**

Author: Richard Brooks ("The Brick Foxhole")

Adaptation by Robert L. Richards, Henry F. Martin

ROBERT YOUNG (Captain Finley), ROBERT RYAN (Monty), ROBERT MITCHUM (Keighley), SAM LEVENE (Joseph Samuels), GEORGE COOPER (Mitchell), WILLIAM PHIPPS (Leroy), Marlo Dwyer (Ginny), Bill Lally (Floyd Bowers), Luis Van Rooten (The Man), Bill Johnstone (Signature Voice / Constable O'Hara), Julie Bennett (Mary Mitchell)

Bob Stevenson (Announcer)

*Several Army recruits come under suspicion of a hate crime following the murder of a Jewish veteran.*

NOTES: The first six cast members were from the original 1947 RKO film; Marlo Dwyer subbed for the previously announced Gloria Grahame, who was also in the film; the full cast is announced with role identification at the end

On 4-15-48 Spier produced "Can't We Be Friends" on *THE CLOCK*. That story was previously produced by him for *SUSPENSE*, 7-25-46

*SUSPENSE* is pre-empted on 4-17-48 for a Major League special ("Play Ball")

On 4-22-48 Spier produced "The Search for Isabel" on *THE CLOCK*. He will later produce that story for *THE PHILIP MORRIS PLAYHOUSE* on 1-21-49 and *SUSPENSE* on 11-3-49

### **THE SEARCH (4-24-48) #292**

Author: Grace Amundson

Howard Culver (Sid Latch [alias Phil Wolfe]), Sondra Gair (Iris Johnson), Ira Grossel (Copper Pete, the passenger), Berry Kroeger (Roger Miles / Driver), Pinto Colvig (Bo), Gil Stratton, Jr. (Paperboy / Radio announcer), Ann Morrison (Eadie / Woman on bus), Lou Krugman (Nick / Mac), Russ Thorson (Al / Constable), Doug Young (Will / Joe), Frank Gerstle (Ed Jacobs / Druggist), Bill Johnstone (Signature Voice)

Bob Stevenson (Announcer)

*Wherever they go, a young couple are the suspects in the murder of an alcoholic cowboy star.*

NOTE: The extant copy of this show is from damaged discs (opening and a middle portion are missing)

4-25-48: schedule change for *THE CLOCK*. Tonight Spier produced "Bad Dreams"

### **THE BLIND SPOT (5-1-48) #293**

Authors: Lois Eby & John C. Fleming

Adaptation by Joel Malone

EDMOND O'BRIEN (Eric Strange), Frances Chaney (Mona Bartlett / Miss Askins), Jeff Corey (Leland Rogers), Paul McVey (Lt. John Mannix), Martha Shaw (Cheryl Miller / Switchboard operator), Ralph Moody (Fogarty / Postal supervisor), Bill Lally (Gregory Rome / Pete), Bruce Kamman (Clerk / Doctor), Bud Widom (Jim Carr / Cab driver), Bill Johnstone (Signature Voice / Driver / The Dean)

Bob Stevenson (Announcer)

*A bodyguard for hire fails to protect his employer from being killed.*

NOTE: The full cast is announced

On 5-2-48 Spier produced "Bank Holiday" for *THE CLOCK*. That script was produced by him for *SUSPENSE* on 7-19-45

### **LIFE ENDS AT MIDNIGHT (5-8-48) #294**

Author: Bob Tallman

FAY Bainter (Mrs. Bates), Tony Barrett (Walter Bates), Norman Field (Mr. Chalmers / Flanagan), Don Diamond (Plumber / Joe the newsboy), Bill Johnstone (Signature Voice / Rick)

Bob Stevenson (Announcer)

*An elderly woman's son is a no-good just waiting to kill a boarder for life insurance.*

NOTES: A one-off return to the 30-minute format

This script was also produced on 2-17-44 and 10-18-55

On 5-9-48 Spier produced "Liz" for  
*THE CLOCK*

**DEADLINE AT DAWN (5-15-48) #295**

Author: Cornell Woolrich (as William  
Irish)

Adaptation by Irving Ravetch

HELEN WALKER (Ruth "Bricky"  
Coleman), JOHN BEAL (Quinn  
Williams), Rye Billsbury (Arthur Holmes /  
Jerry), Lillian Buyeff (Barbara / Joan  
Basell), Buddy Gray (Joe the cab driver),  
Bill Johnstone (Signature Voice / Officer  
Larson / Pop / Griff), Edith Tachna  
(Operator / Hatcheck girl)

Bob Stevenson (Announcer)

*A young thief tries stealing already-stolen  
money from a girl who ends up dead.*

NOTES: Final of the 19 one-hour shows,  
and the end of the current series

On 5-16-48, Spier produced "While  
Best Remembered" for *THE CLOCK*.

On 5-23-48 Spier produced his final  
show for *THE CLOCK*. The script was  
"My Wife Geraldine," which he had  
previously produced for *SUSPENSE*,  
3-1-45

From July 8<sup>th</sup> a new series of  
*SUSPENSE* commences scheduled  
on Thursdays, 9.00-9.30 p.m.

# **SUSPENSE, THE AUTO-LITE YEARS, JULY 1948 TO JUNE 1954**

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## **\*\* THE LAST CHANCE (7-8-48) #296**

Author: Larry Marcus

CARY GRANT (Johnny Graham), Shep Menken, Berry Kroeger, Fred Campbell, Stanley Farrar, Maxine Marx (Operator/Judy), Herman Waldman, John T. Smith, Daws Butler, Paul Frees (Signature Voice)

COMMERCIAL: Bill Johnstone (Father), Gil Stratton, Jr. (Billy), Ann Morrison (Mother), Frank Martin (Announcer)

*A gambler and his partners rob a meek man out of his money, then the gambler's partners are brutally killed.*

NOTES: This show is unavailable for review, recording not known.

This was the first of 259 shows sponsored by the Electric Auto-Lite company via ad agency Newell-Emmett. Paul Frees becomes the new signature voice of *SUSPENSE* for the next 69 weeks, and Frank Martin is the first commercial announcer handling the initial 13-week cycle. Bill Johnstone plays a character named Hap Horton in the dramatized commercials. The series was produced and directed by Anton Leader, carrying on in his role from the sustaining one-hour era. This first Auto-Lite show is a sadly missing milestone, an original recording not having surfaced.

---

## **SUMMER NIGHT (7-15-48) #297**

Author: Ray Bradbury

Adaptation by Robert L. Richards

IDA LUPINO (Anna Macauley), Larry Dobkin (Charles), Sylvia Simms (Miss Welsh, the telephone operator), Frances Robinson (Helen), Paul Frees (Signature Voice)

COMMERCIAL: Bill Johnstone (Hap), Gil Stratton, Jr. (Billy), Ken Harvey (Mike & jingle singer), Frank Martin (announcer)

*A woman kills another, hoping the police will assume it's the work of the notorious "Lipstick Killer."*

---

## **DEEP INTO DARKNESS (7-22-48) #298**

Author: Edward James

DOUGLAS FAIRBANKS, JR. (Ken Matthews), Lurene Tuttle (Lila Burke), Joe Kearns (Foreman / Lee Burke [alias Keith Wilson]), Paul Frees (Signature Voice / Warden / Chauffeur), Walter Burke (Gun Salesman / Minister)

COMMERCIAL: Bill Johnstone (Hap), Gil Stratton Jr. (Billy), Ken Harvey (Ed), Sylvia Simms (Operator), Frank Martin (Announcer)

*An ex-prisoner learns that the man he was jailed for killing is actually alive and kicking.*

---

## **THE YELLOW WALLPAPER (7-29-48) #299**

Author: Charlotte Perkins Gilman

Adaptation by Silvia Richards

AGNES MOOREHEAD (Pet), Bill Johnstone (John), Jeanette Nolan (Jenny), Paul Frees (Signature Voice)

COMMERCIAL: Bill Johnstone (Hap), Frank Martin (Announcer)

*An unbalanced woman is being driven mad by a pattern in the wallpaper.*

NOTE: This script was also produced on 6-30-57

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## **AN HONEST MAN (8-5-48) #300**

Author: Robert L. Richards

CHARLES LAUGHTON (Freddie McWilliams), Betty Lou Gerson (Dora), Norman Field (Kelsey / Police Sergeant), Buddy Gray (Tom Bass), Eleanor Audley (Freddie's Mother), Paul Frees (Signature Voice)

COMMERCIAL: Bill Johnstone (Hap), Gil Stratton, Jr. (Billy), Ann Morrison (Mary), Sylvia Simms (Operator), Frank Martin (Announcer)

*A man tries to impress a lady by stealing money and hoping for a win on the horses.*

---

## **BEWARE THE QUIET MAN (8-12-48) #301**

Author: Toby Hall

ANN SOTHERN (Marjie Banning), William Conrad (Lem Closum), Sidney Miller (Charlie), Jerry Hausner (Newsboy), unknown (Arthur Banning), Gail Bonney? (Lorraine), Paul Frees (Signature Voice)

COMMERCIAL: Bill Johnstone (Hap), Gil Stratton, Jr. (Billy), Eleanor Audley (Mae), Ann Morrison (Mary), Sylvia Simms (Operator), Frank Martin (Announcer)

*A woman meets a private eye, then realizes he was hired by her husband.*

NOTE: Working title: "Bang, Bang, That's All!"

---

## **CRISIS (8-19-48) #302**

Authors: Gwen & John Bagni

MARTHA SCOTT (Mary Norquist), Frank Lovejoy (Paul Norquist), Wally Maher (Doctor / Policeman), Ken Christy (Fred Johnson), Georgia Ellis (Elaine), Bobby Ellis (Kurt as boy), John Newland (Kurt as young man), Ann Morrison? (Baby cries), Paul Frees (Signature Voice) unknown (Guard)

COMMERCIAL: Bill Johnstone (Hap), Ann Morrison (Mary), Sam Edwards (Billy), Sylvia Simms (Operator), Frank Martin (Announcer)

*A mother begins imagining her infant son could grow up to be a truly evil person.*

NOTE: Script title is "The Crisis"

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## **SONG OF THE HEART (8-26-48) #303**

Author: Elliott Lewis

VAN HEFLIN (Neil Wilson), Betty Lou Gerson (Muriel Jones), Lurene Tuttle (Aunt Alice), Russell Thorson (First Officer), Bruce Kamman (Second officer), Paul Frees (Signature Voice)

COMMERCIAL: Bill Johnstone (Hap), Gil Stratton, Jr. (Billy), Sylvia Simms (Operator), Frank Martin (Announcer)

*A man brings his fiancée home to meet his deranged Aunt Alice.*

NOTES: Lurene Tuttle and Betty Lou Gerson get on-air credit

According to Darryl Shelton, Van Johnson was originally considered for the lead

After excellent ratings, it was announced on 8-28 that *SUSPENSE*'s option had been picked up to continue past its first cycle for Auto-Lite, beginning 10-7-48

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**THE MORRISON AFFAIR (9-2-48) #304**

Author: Pamela Wilcox

MADELEINE CARROLL (Sheila Morrison), Gerald Mohr (Dr. Paul Morrison), John Hoyt (Mr. Ballon), Leone Ledoux (Baby / Jamie), Erik Rolf (Conductor), Carol Smith (? Mary / A mother), Edith Tachna (? English mother), Ruth Perrott (Sheila's Mother), Paul Frees (Signature Voice) other roles doubled but unidentified on script: Secretary / Johnny / Dr. Lucas / Operator / Driver / Maid / Nurse

COMMERCIAL: Bill Johnstone (Hap), Sylvia Simms (Operator), Frank Martin (Announcer)

*A young couple on a train journey kidnap an infant when the wife thinks the child is hers.*

---

**THE BIG SHOT (9-9-48) #305**

Author: Brett Halliday (aka Davis Dresser)

Adaptation by Lawrence Goldman

BURT LANCASTER (Charles Morton), Charlotte Lawrence (Lolita), Ken Christy (Quinn), Tim Graham (Joe Logan / Worker / El Chico), Paul Frees (Signature Voice) + Voice / Kid's Voice

COMMERCIAL: Bill Johnstone (Hap), Wally Maher (Doc Lewis), Ann Morrison (Mary), Sylvia Simms (Operator), Frank Martin (Announcer)

*American thieves in Mexico steal \$50,000 in valuable ore but must cross the border to get home.*

NOTE: Lancaster was announced for a story called "Breakup," but this was not produced until 12-30-48, with William Bendix starring.

---

**HITCHHIKE POKER (9-16-48) #306**

Authors: John & Gwen Bagni

GREGORY PECK (Ridge Fowler), Ed Begley (J. Stuart Belden), Kay Brinker (Virginia), Paul McVey (Desk Sergeant / Truck Driver), Charles Seel (Al), Paul Frees (Signature Voice)

COMMERCIAL: Bill Johnstone (Hap), Ann Morrison (Mary), Sylvia Simms (Operator), Frank Martin (Announcer)

*A hitch-hiker is picked up by a dangerous man.*

NOTES: This script was also produced, as "Four of a Kind," on 1-25-59.

Ed Begley and Kay Brinker get on-air credit.

---

**CELEBRATION (9-23-48) #307**

Authors: Phyllis Parker & Arnold Marquis

ROBERT YOUNG (Todd Ward), VIRGINIA BRUCE (Emily Ward), Jeanette Nolan (Mrs. Bertha Hallick), Walter Craig (First Man / Waiter), Ed Colmans (Second Man / Doctor), Paul Frees (Signature Voice)

COMMERCIAL: Bill Johnstone (Hap), Ann Morrison (Operator), Gil Stratton, Jr. (Billy), Frank Martin (Announcer)

*A husband must celebrate his wedding anniversary knowing his wife is slowly losing her mind.*



NOTE: This script, somewhat rewritten to match the original story's darker tone, was also produced on 5-5-57

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**THE MAN WHO WANTED TO BE EDWARD G. ROBINSON (9-30-48) #308**

Author: Lesley Raddatz

EDWARD G. ROBINSON (Homer J. Hubbard / Edward G. Robinson), Eleanor Audley (Ada Hubbard), Joe Kearns (Ryan / Dinner guest), Ann Morrison (Woman / Dinner guest), unknown (Gun Salesman), Paul Frees (Signature Voice)

COMMERCIAL: Bill Johnstone (Hap), Ann Morrison (Mary + Operator), Gil Stratton, Jr. (Billy), Sylvia Simms (Operator)

*A tour-de-force by Robinson in a dual role, as a henpecked little man and his own famous movie tough guy persona.*

NOTES: This script was originally produced on 10-17-46.

The final *SUSPENSE* for Frank Martin, who was commercial announcer on the initial 13-week Auto-Lite cycle.

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**NIGHT CRY (10-7-48) #309**

Author: William L. Stewart

Adaptation by John Dunkel

RAY MILLAND (Lieutenant Mark Deglin), Herman Waldman (Captain Al Knight), John Dehner (Dan Riley), Jack Petruzzi (Carlstrom / Lab technician), Sidney Miller (Patrolman / Cole the cabbie), Stacy Harris (Payne), Barbara Fuller (Morgan Taylor), Kay Miller (Mrs. Meacham), Paul Frees (Signature Voice)

COMMERCIAL: Bill Johnstone (Hap), Sylvia Simms (Operator), Harlow Wilcox (Announcer)

*A thuggish homicide cop with a successful arrest record accidentally murders an innocent person.*

NOTE: The first of 245 *SUSPENSE* shows for announcer Harlow Wilcox

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**A LITTLE PIECE OF ROPE (10-14-48) #310**

Author: Virginia Cross

LUCILLE BALL (Isabel), Berry Kroeger (Alex Rice, aka Benjamin Carney), Harry Bartell (Radio voice), Paul Dubov (Sergeant Thompson), Sylvia Simms (Mrs. Tilford / Girl), Norman Field (Man 3), Paul Frees (Signature Voice)

COMMERCIAL: Bill Johnstone (Hap), Sylvia Simms (Operator), Harlow Wilcox (Announcer)

*A devious woman who robs men gets tangled up with the infamous "Strangler."*

NOTE: Berry Kroeger gets on-air credit

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**GIVE ME LIBERTY (10-21-48) #311**

Author: Herb Meadow

WILLIAM POWELL (Earl French), Ann Morrison (The Woman), Paul Frees (Signature Voice), unknown (Detective), unknown (Boy), unknown (Jack, the dog),

COMMERCIAL: Bill Johnstone (Hap), Ann Morrison, Harlow Wilcox (Announcer)

*A thief is caught but on the way to jail he escapes, still handcuffed.*

NOTES: This script was also produced on 3-21-55.

*SUSPENSE* was pre-empted on 10-28, for a campaign address by N. Y. Governor Dewey. "Sorry, Wrong Number," originally announced for this date, aired on 11-18-48

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**DEATH SENTENCE (11-4-48) #312**

Authors: Lou Lusty & Les Crutchfield

JOHN GARFIELD (Tommy Cochran),  
Gloria Blondell (Helen Ludlow), Raymond  
Burr (Lew Cromwell alias Maxie Dunn),  
Wally Maher (Brad Cummings), Ross  
Forrester (Mugsy / Man), Paul Frees  
(Signature Voice)

COMMERCIAL: Bill Johnstone (Hap),  
Ann Morrison (Mary), Harlow Wilcox  
(Announcer)

*A crook ends up in Vegas while running  
from a mobster who has given him just one  
week to live.*

NOTE: This script was later produced on  
*HOLLYWOOD STAR PLAYHOUSE*, 9-21-  
52

Bill Spier is producer-director for  
CBS's revival of *THE PHILIP MORRIS  
PLAYHOUSE* for 39 weeks, 11-5-48 to  
7-29-49

His first production is "The Silver  
Frame," which will be produced later  
on *SUSPENSE*, 2-2-58

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**MUDDY TRACK (11-11-48) #313**

Authors: Bob Shelley & Buckley Angel

EDMOND O'BRIEN (Harry Clark), ANN  
BLYTH (Eleanor Grayson), Nestor Paiva  
(Augie Pershing / Driver 2), Kay Brinker  
(Brandy), Richard Benedict (Cabbie), Gail  
Bonney (Cleaning Woman), Michael  
Brown (Driver 1 / Bud), Joe DuVal (Harry  
/ Dimples), Paul Frees (Signature Voice)

COMMERCIAL: Bill Johnstone (Hap),  
Harlow Wilcox (Announcer)

*A down-and-out gambler hooks up with a  
bookie operation but is soon framed for  
murder.*

On 11-12-48 Spier produced "Angel  
Face" for *THE PHILIP MORRIS  
PLAYHOUSE*. That script was later  
produced on *SUSPENSE*, 5-18-50

---

**SORRY, WRONG NUMBER (11-18-  
48) #314**

Author: Lucille Fletcher

Sound effects: Berne Surrey

AGNES MOOREHEAD (Mrs.  
Stevenson), Ira Grossel (George's  
Contact / Sergeant Martin), Eleanor  
Audley (Chief Operator / Henschley  
Hospital), Sylvia Simms? (Operator),  
unknown (George), Jerry Hausner?  
(Western Union boy), Paul Frees  
(Signature Voice)

COMMERCIAL: Bill Johnstone (Hap),  
Sylvia Simms (Operator), Harlow Wilcox  
(Announcer)

*A neurotic woman gets a crossed phone  
line and hears of a planned murder.*

NOTE: The fifth performance of this  
famous script, previously produced on 5-  
25-43, 8-21-43, 2-24-44, 9-6-45. It would  
be produced twice more, on 9-15-52 and  
10-20-57, and on 2-14-60 a tape of the  
1957 version was rebroadcast.

On 11-19-48 Spier produced "Postage  
Due" for *THE PHILIP MORRIS  
PLAYHOUSE*



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### **THE SCREAMING WOMAN (11-25-48) #315**

Author: Ray Bradbury

Adaptation by Silvia Richards

MARGARET O'BRIEN (Margaret Leary), John McIntire (Dad Leary), Jeff Corey (Police Officer / Charles Nesbitt), Ed Begley (Kelly / Mr. Hyde), Gilbert Barnett (Dippy Smith), Marissa O'Brien (Mama / Mrs. Hyde), Sylvia Simms (Mrs. Griswold / Mrs. Kelly), Paul Frees (Signature Voice)

COMMERCIAL: Bill Johnstone (Hap), Sylvia Simms (Operator), Harlow Wilcox (Announcer)

*A ten-year-old girl insists she hears a woman screaming from under the ground.*

NOTES: According to Darryl Shelton, an unbilled Agnes Moorehead did the screaming woman's muffled sounds.

This script was also produced on 3-1-55

On 11-26-48 Spier produced "Murder Plot" for *THE PHILIP MORRIS PLAYHOUSE*

And on 11-29-48 Anton Leader directs an audition called *THE HUNTERS*, starring Victor Jory, based on "You Take Ballistics," previously produced on *SUSPENSE*, 3-13-47

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### **THE HANDS OF MR. OTTERMOLLE (12-2-48) #316**

Author: Thomas Burke

Adaptation by Ken Crossen

CLAUDE RAINS (Sergeant Ottermolle), VINCENT PRICE ("Mr. Newspaper Man"), Lou Krugman (Harry Whybrow), Ben Wright (Smithers), Raymond Lawrence (Joyner), Alec Harford (Pub

character), unknown (Flossie / Woman), Paul Frees (Signature Voice)

COMMERCIAL: Bill Johnstone (Hap), Sylvia Simms (Operator), Harlow Wilcox (Announcer)

*A journalist gets to the scene of murders before a famous Scotland Yard investigator.*

NOTE: This story was dubbed one of the greatest of mysteries by a panel of writers and mystery connoisseurs

On 12-3-48 Spier produced "Harry King's Ransom" for *THE PHILIP MORRIS PLAYHOUSE*

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### **THE SISTERS (12-9-48) #317**

Author: George Wells

ROSALIND RUSSELL (Lydia Haskell), Lurene Tuttle (Ellie Haskell), Joe Kearns (Undertaker), Ira Grossel (Police Officer), Byron Kane (Assistant undertaker), Paul Frees (Signature Voice)

COMMERCIAL: Bill Johnstone (Hap), Harlow Wilcox (Announcer)

*A woman orders a coffin for her sister, who is not yet dead.*

NOTES: This script was also produced 2-3-44 and 3-30-58.

Lurene Tuttle receives on-air billing

On 12-10-48 Spier produced "Deadly is the Diamond" for *THE PHILIP MORRIS PLAYHOUSE*

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### **NO ESCAPE (12-16-48) #318**

Author: Larry Marcus

JAMES CAGNEY (Harry Graham), Jeanette Nolan (Eve / Woman), Sidney Miller (Joe), Hal K. Dawson (Chief Blake), Bill Shaw (Voice / Man 2), Tom Holland (Ted Graham / Fraser), Paul Frees (Signature Voice)

COMMERCIAL: Bill Johnstone (Hap), Harlow Wilcox (Announcer)

*A man voted the safest driver causes a speeding accident in which two people die.*

NOTE: The first of several Auto-Lite sanctioned driver safety stories.

On 12-17-48 Spier produced "Cat and Mouse" for *THE PHILIP MORRIS PLAYHOUSE*. That script was originally produced by Spier on *SUSPENSE*, 3-30-44

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### **HOLIDAY SHOW (12-23-48) #319**

Author: John Collier

Adaptation by Bob Tallman

HERBERT MARSHALL (Wilfred Carpenter), Jeanette Nolan? (Hermione), Betty Lou Gerson (Miriam), unknown (Freddy Sinclair / Bellboy), unknown (Professor Goodenough), unknown (Mrs. Goodenough), Daws Butler (Steward / Clerk), Paul Frees (Signature Voice)

COMMERCIAL: Bill Johnstone (Hap), Sylvia Simms (Operator), Harlow Wilcox (Announcer)

*A botany lecturer murders his nagging wife and marries again.*

NOTES: This script was also produced on 12-23-43 and 12-23-56. The same script was produced on the *ESCAPE* series (12-

24-47), where the lead character was named Herbert Carpenter.

This is the only time the story was not referred to as "Back for Christmas," although the script has the correct title

On 12-24-48 Spier produced "The One Millionth Joe" for *THE PHILIP MORRIS PLAYHOUSE*. That script will be produced by Spier on *SUSPENSE*, 6-22-50

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### **BREAKUP (12-30-48) #320**

Author: Thomas Walsh

Adaptation by Joseph Ruscoll & Walter Brown Newman

WILLIAM BENDIX (Marty Connors), Frances Chaney (Rita), Nestor Paiva (Max Shale), Wally Maher (Kivilan), Ed Begley (Captain Brandt), Herb Vigran (Chic), Tim Graham (Doctor), Herbert Rawlinson (Doc Williamson), Sidney Miller (Elevator Operator), Paul Frees (Signature Voice)

COMMERCIAL: Bill Johnstone (Hap), Harlow Wilcox (Announcer)

*An out of work policeman finds a job as security for a drug dealer, rising to top hit man.*

NOTES: This story was originally to star Burt Lancaster

Jack Benny makes a cameo at the close, to plug his move to the CBS network and his first broadcast on 1-2-49.

Wally Maher receives air credit.

On 12-31-48 Spier produced "Widow in Name Only" for *THE PHILIP MORRIS PLAYHOUSE*

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**TO FIND HELP (1-6-49) #321**

Author: Mel Dinelli

ETHEL BARRYMORE (Mrs. Gillis),  
GENE KELLY (Howard Wilton), Bill  
Conrad (Mr. Armstrong / Stevens),  
Charles Seel (Milkman), Dave Light  
(Sarah, the dog), Paul Frees (Signature  
Voice)

COMMERCIAL: Bill Johnstone (Hap),  
Sylvia Simms (Operator), Harlow Wilcox  
(Announcer)

*An elderly woman hires a handyman who  
is actually a murderous psychopath.*

NOTE: This script was originally  
produced on 1-18-45 with Frank Sinatra  
(who was publicised by CBS for this  
encore version before Gene Kelly took the  
role).

On 1-7-49 Spier produced "First Act of  
Murder" for *THE PHILIP MORRIS  
PLAYHOUSE*

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**THE TOO-PERFECT ALIBI (1-13-49)  
#322**

Author: Martin Stern

DANNY KAYE (Sam Rogers), John  
McIntire (Inspector Dinelli), Hal March  
(Jack Stewart), Mary Shipp (Catherine  
Gilpin), Ted Von Eltz (D. A.), Paul Frees  
(Simon Blade / Signature Voice), Johnny  
Jacobs, Charles LaTorre, Fred Campbell,  
Bud Widom

*A man commits murder during a party and  
returns to the festivities with no-one  
noticing his absence.*

COMMERCIAL: Bill Johnstone (Hap),  
Sylvia Simms (Operator), Harlow Wilcox  
(Announcer)

NOTE: Sound patterns by Clark Casey and  
Dave Light, as noted in a *RADIO LIFE*  
feature on this show

On 1-14-49 Spier produced "The Man  
Who Dreamed of Murder" for *THE  
PHILIP MORRIS PLAYHOUSE*

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**IF THE DEAD COULD TALK (1-20-  
49) #323**

Author: William Irish (aka Cornell  
Woolrich)

Adaptation by Larry Marcus

DANA ANDREWS (Joe), Peggy Webber  
(Fran / Patsy the circus fat lady), Tony  
Barrett (Tommy), Ted de Corsia  
(Ringmaster / Cop), unknown (Gun  
salesman), Paul Frees (Signature Voice)

*Three carnival high-wire acrobats in a  
deadly romantic triangle.*

COMMERCIAL: Bill Johnstone (Hap),  
Sylvia Simms (Operator), Harlow Wilcox  
(Announcer)

On 1-21-49, Spier produced "The  
Search for Isabel" for *THE PHILIP  
MORRIS PLAYHOUSE*. That script  
was previously produced on *THE  
CLOCK* 4-22-48 and would be  
produced again for *SUSPENSE*, 11-3-  
49

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**THE THING IN THE WINDOW  
(1-27-49) #324**

Author: Lucille Fletcher

ROBERT MONTGOMERY (Martin Ames), Miriam Wolfe (Mary / Elaine Landis), Jeanette Nolan (Vivian Landis), Ken Christy (Sergeant), Berry Kroeger (Ronald), Roland Winters (Anson, the building super), Dave Light (Buster, the dog), Paul Frees (Signature Voice)

*A man constantly complains of a dead body he sees seated in the window of his neighboring apartment.*

COMMERCIAL: Harlow Wilcox (Announcer)

NOTE: This script was previously produced on 12-19-46 (Montgomery was originally slated to do a production of "Odd Man Out," but that story wasn't produced until 2-11-52)

On 1-28-49, Spier produces "Going Down, Please" for *THE PHILIP MORRIS PLAYHOUSE*. That script was originally produced by Spier on *SUSPENSE* as "The Swift Rise of Eddie Albright," 4-3-47

On 2-1-49 the *SUSPENSE* TV show was announced, originating from New York

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**BACK SEAT DRIVER (2-3-49) #325**

Author: Sally Thorson

JIM JORDAN (Detective Joe Charles), MARIAN JORDAN (Ellie Charles), Jack Edwards (Lloyd Matthews [alias Lewis Matrick]), Will Wright (Bill / Policeman), unknown (News Reader / Kennedy), unknown (Miranda), Paul Frees (Signature Voice)

*Two people are held hostage by an armed killer who was hiding in their car.*

COMMERCIAL: Bill Johnstone (Hap), Sylvia Simms (Operator), Harlow Wilcox (Announcer)

NOTE: This script was also produced on 2-22-51 and 7-19-55

On 2-4-49 Spier produced "The Dead Never Cry" for *THE PHILIP MORRIS PLAYHOUSE*

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**DE MORTUIS (2-10-49) #326**

Author: John Collier

Adaptation by Ken Crossen

CHARLES LAUGHTON (Dr. Rankin), Ben Wright (Greg), Alec Harford (George), Sylvia Simms (Irene / Mrs. Green), Franklin Parker (Harry Manning / Constable Saunders), Dave Light (Dog), Paul Frees (Signature Voice)

COMMERCIAL: Bill Johnstone (Hap), Sylvia Simms (Operator), Harlow Wilcox (Announcer)

*A medical lecturer has an unfaithful wife, and he is possibly hiding her body in his basement.*

NOTE: According to Darryl Shelton, Ronald Colman was originally to play the lead

On 2-11-49 Spier produced "Time-Table" for *THE PHILIP MORRIS PLAYHOUSE*

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**CATCH ME IF YOU CAN (2-17-49)  
#327**

Author: Pat McGerr

Adaptation by Silvia Richards

JANE WYMAN (Margot Weatherby),  
Frank Lovejoy (Mike Sheldon), Raymond  
Burr (Rocky Rhodes), Lurene Tuttle  
(Susan Quinn), Paul Marion (Phil  
Weatherby), Jerry Hausner (Charlie  
Miller), Paul Frees (Signature Voice)

*A wife poisons her husband but before he  
dies he lets her know he has alerted his  
lawyer.*

COMMERCIAL: Bill Johnstone (Hap),  
Sylvia Simms (Operator), Harlow Wilcox  
(Announcer)

On 2-18-49 Spier produced "The  
Painted Limerick" for *THE PHILIP  
MORRIS PLAYHOUSE*

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**WHERE THERE'S A WILL (2-24-49)  
#328**

Author: Agatha Christie

Adaptation by William Fifeild

JAMES MASON (Charles Ridgeway /  
"Patrick"), PAMELA KELLINO  
(Elizabeth), Ben Wright (Jepson /  
Newsreader), Herb Butterfield (Dr.  
Manell), Ruth Rickaby (Aunt Mary  
Harter), Don Morrison (Inspector /  
Spanish announcer / French announcer),  
Ramsay Hill (Hopkinson), Paul Frees  
(Signature Voice)

COMMERCIAL: Sylvia Simms  
(Operator), Harlow Wilcox (Announcer)

*An in-debt gambling man with a large  
inheritance coming his way tries to hasten  
his Aunt's death.*

NOTES: At the end of this show, there is  
the first announcement of *SUSPENSE* on  
TV, to begin on 3-1-49

The working title for this script was "The  
Bedford Case"

On 2-25-49 Spier produced "Leona's  
Room" for *THE PHILIP MORRIS  
PLAYHOUSE*

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**THE LOVE BIRDS (3-3-49) #329**

Author: Shirl Hendryx

Adaptation by Harold Swanton

JOAN FONTAINE (Martha), Lester  
Sharpe (Sam), Ed Begley (Doc Roberts),  
unknown (Woman), unknown (Jim), Paul  
Frees (Signature Voice)

COMMERCIAL: Bill Johnstone (Hap),  
Jerry Hausner, Harlow Wilcox  
(Announcer)

*A lovesick man threatens to kill his  
resentful wife should she try to leave him.*

On 3-4-49 Spier produced "The Well"  
for *THE PHILIP MORRIS  
PLAYHOUSE*

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**THREE O'CLOCK (3-10-49) #330**

Author: Cornell Woolrich

Adaptation by Walter Brown Newman

VAN HEFLIN (Paul), Georgia Ellis  
(Francie / Bobby), Ted De Corsia (Duke /  
Cop), Walter Craig (Lou / Gas Man),  
Walter Burke (Earl / Gas Man 2), George  
Baxter (Dave / Doc), Ann Morrison  
(Bobby's Mother), Paul Frees (Signature  
Voice)

COMMERCIAL: Bill Johnstone (Hap),  
Sylvia Simms (Operator), Harlow Wilcox  
(Announcer)

*A man rigs up a time bomb to kill his wife but a burglar surprises him by tying and gagging him in the basement, with the deadly device ticking down the seconds.*

NOTE: At the end of this show, director Tony Leader is presented with a special scroll for *SUSPENSE* from Ann Daggett of *Radio Mirror Magazine*.

On 3-11-49 Spier produced "Lady from the Sea" for *THE PHILIP MORRIS PLAYHOUSE*

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### **MURDER THROUGH THE LOOKING GLASS (3-17-49) #331**

Author: Michael Venning (aka Craig Rice)

Adaptation by Ken Crossen

GREGORY PECK (John Blake aka Geoffrey Bruno), unknown (Rosalie), Sidney Miller (Newsboy), Joe Kearns (Roger Gunn, alias Doctor), Charles Seel? (Clark the butler), Paul Frees (Signature Voice), Carleton Young, Ralph Moody?

COMMERCIAL: Bill Johnstone (Hap), Harlow Wilcox (Announcer)

*An amnesiac on a train doesn't know if he killed someone.*

On 3-18-49, Spier produced "Letter of Condolence" for *THE PHILIP MORRIS PLAYHOUSE*

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### **DEAD ERNEST (3-24-49) #332**

Authors: Seeleg Lester, Merwyn Gerard

PAT O'BRIEN (Lt. Steve Healy), Paul Frees (Signature Voice / Dr. Weldon), Herb Vigran (Officer Abbott / Minelli), Ed Max (Payne / Al, the embalmer), Alan Reed (Honest Jerry Murdock), Jeanette Nolan (Landlady), Frank Nelson? (Theodore Tobey), unknown (Bobby Minelli), Jerry Farber? (Tommy Stoner), Ruth Perrott? (Nurse / Mrs. Bowers),

unknown (Henry Prince), unknown (Frances Prince), unknown (Anthony, the embalmer), unknown (Ernest Bowers)

COMMERCIAL: Bill Johnstone (Hap), Harlow Wilcox (Announcer)

*A man who suffers from catalepsy is moments away from being embalmed.*

NOTE: This was the third production of this classic script (previously produced on 8-8-46 & 5-8-47).

On 3-25-49, Spier produced "Banquo's Chair" for *THE PHILIP MORRIS PLAYHOUSE*. That script was produced by Spier three times on *SUSPENSE*, 6-1-43, 8-3-44 and 3-9-50

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### **YOU CAN'T DIE TWICE (3-31-49) #333**

Author: Joseph Ruscoll

Adaptation ("prepared for *SUSPENSE*") by Walter Newman

EDWARD G. ROBINSON (Sam Brown), Ross Forrester (Luther / Voice), Jeanette Nolan (Katy), Frank Gerstle (Announcer), Peter Prouse (Ryan the Cop / Man), Hal K. Dawson (Harry), Betty Lou Gerson (Cleo Carter), Paul Frees (Signature Voice)

*A woman is told her husband is dead but he is alive and well in the same room as her.*

COMMERCIAL: Bill Johnstone (Hap), Harlow Wilcox (Announcer), Sylvia Simms (Operator)

On 4-1-49 Spier produced "Apology" for *THE PHILIP MORRIS PLAYHOUSE*



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## **THE NOOSE OF COINCIDENCE (4-7-49) #334**

Author: William Fifeild

Adaptation by Herb Meadow

RONALD COLMAN (Christopher Swan), Ben Wright (Constable Smithers), Bea Benaderet (Margaret), Hans Conried (Christopher Swan #2, aka Kit), unknown (Anne Stevens), Paul Frees (Signature Voice)

*An English bookstore owner is told of his death date by a psychic.*

COMMERCIAL: Bill Johnstone (Hap), Sylvia Simms (Operator), Harlow Wilcox (Announcer)

On 4-8-49 Spier produced "Run Away from Murder" for *THE PHILIP MORRIS PLAYHOUSE*

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## **MURDER IN BLACK AND WHITE (4-14-49) #335**

Authors: Anne Wormser & Jess Oppenheimer

Adaptation by Elye Dovid

EDMUND GWENN (Rice Archer), Carleton Young (Room Service Voice + Clark Henley), Herbert Rawlinson (Man + Widicombe), Terry Kilburn (Bellhop / Desk Clerk), Irene Booth (Operator / Thomasina), Paul Dubov (Waiter / Man 3), Shep Menken (Man 2 / Man 4), Joe DuVal (Police Officer), Eleanor Audley (Miss Gordon + Ethel), Paul Frees (Signature Voice)

COMMERCIAL: Bill Johnstone (Hap), Harlow Wilcox (Announcer), Sylvia Simms (Operator)

*A man kills his business partner then hears from people who claim they just spoke with the deceased.*

NOTE: Originally announced for this date was a script by Arch Oboler called "Him and Me." It appears this was never produced.

On 4-15-49, Spier produced "Night Man" for *THE PHILIP MORRIS PLAYHOUSE*. That script was produced three times on *SUSPENSE*, 10-26-44, 7-26-59 and 10-23-60

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## **THE COPPER TEA STRAINER (4-21-49) #336**

Author: John T. Copeland

BETTY GRABLE (Jeannie Dunn), Raymond Burr (Detective), Bill Conrad (Ted Wark), Marc Lawrence (James Irwin), Ruth Perrott (Mrs. Dunn), Sidney Miller (Waiter + Harmon the druggist), Paul Frees (Signature Voice)

COMMERCIAL: Bill Johnstone (Hap), Harlow Wilcox (Announcer), Sylvia Simms (Operator)

*A nagging mother drives her daughter to increase her medication to a dangerous level.*

On 4-22-49, Spier produced "August Heat" for *THE PHILIP MORRIS PLAYHOUSE*. That script was produced twice on *SUSPENSE*, 5-31-45 and 3-20-48

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## **THE LIE (4-28-49) #337**

Author: William Irish (aka Cornell Woolrich)

Adaptation by Herb Meadow

MICKEY ROONEY (Martin Delevan), Joe Kearns (Train Passenger + Prison Guard), Ed Begley (D.A.), Wally Maher (Endicott + Simmons), Bill Johnstone (Police Lieutenant Steele), Margaret Brayton (Gladys + Miss Jayne), Robert

Strange (Mr. Delevan + Conductor), Paul Frees (Signature Voice)

COMMERCIAL: Bill Johnstone (Hap), Harlow Wilcox (Announcer), Sylvia Simms (Operator)

*A young student takes the rap for a murder to protect his father, then finds he was framed.*

On 4-29-49 Spier produced "The Diary of Sophronia Winters" for *THE PHILIP MORRIS PLAYHOUSE*. That script was produced three times on *SUSPENSE*, 4-27-43, 8-17-44 & 8-10-58

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### **DEATH HAS A SHADOW (5-5-49) #338**

Author: Jo Pagano

BOB HOPE (Harvey Warren), Bill Conrad (Lt. Joe Scarponi), Hy Averback (Bolster), Eddy Fields (Mike the Police Sergeant / Photographer), Tony Barrett (Clerk / Prosecutor), June Whitley (Madge), Ann Morrison (Operator / Woman), Shep Menken (Judge / Night Man), Paul Frees (Signature Voice)

COMMERCIAL: Bill Johnstone (Hap), Harlow Wilcox (Announcer), Sylvia Simms (Operator)

*A shady lawyer thinks he knows enough about legal points to get away with murder.*

On 5-6-49 Spier produced "Murder Needs an Artist" for *THE PHILIP MORRIS PLAYHOUSE*

On May 7, Leader transcribed an episode of *SUSPENSE* (see 6-2-49)

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### **THE LIGHT SWITCH (5-12-49) #339**

Author: Richard Vodra

CLAIRE TREVOR (Mrs. Winston), Wally Maher (Harry), Lou Krugman (Skit Webb), Ted Von Eltz (Man / John Winston), Verna Felton (Eva), Paul Frees (Signature Voice)

COMMERCIAL: Bill Johnstone (Hap), Harlow Wilcox (Announcer), Sylvia Simms (Operator)

*An unhappy wife plans to kill her straying husband in a timed explosion.*

NOTE: Leith Stevens subs for Lud Gluskin, conducting the orchestra for three shows

On 5-13-49 Spier produced "Four Hours to Kill" for *THE PHILIP MORRIS PLAYHOUSE*. That script was produced by Spier on *SUSPENSE*, 1-12-50

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### **CONSEQUENCE (5-19-49) #340**

Authors: Vladimir Pozner & George Sklar

Adaptation by Robert L. Richards

JAMES STEWART (Dr. Phil Martin), Betty Lou Gerson (Gwen Martin / Mrs. Burton), William Woodson (Ted Wolfe / Clerk), Paul Ford (Man / Mr. Dooley), Frances Heflin (Jo / Operator), Stan Waxman (Radio Announcer / Man 2), Gail Bonney (Woman / Mrs. Dooley), Paul Frees (Signature Voice)

COMMERCIAL: Bill Johnstone (Hap), Harlow Wilcox (Announcer), Sylvia Simms (Operator)

*To escape his unhappy marriage a successful doctor assumes the identity of a dead man.*

NOTE: This script was originally produced on 2-21-46 (Stewart was first



announced for a story called "Revenge," but that was produced on 6-30-49 under the title "The Day I Died")

On 5-20-49 Spier produced "Copper Turns Green" for *THE PHILIP MORRIS PLAYHOUSE*

### **THE NIGHT REVEALS (5-26-49) #341**

Author: Cornell Woolrich

Adaptation by Sigmund Miller

FREDRIC MARCH (Harry Jordan), Jeanette Nolan (Marie), John Dehner (Morell the Investigator), Hugh Thomas (Steve / Fireman), Paul McVey (Parmenter / Cop), Jerry Farber (Johnny), Paul Frees (Signature Voice)

COMMERCIAL: Bill Johnstone (Hap), Harlow Wilcox (Announcer),

*A fire inspector begins to suspect his wife is the local arsonist.*

NOTE: The fourth production of this script, previously done on 3-2-43, 12-9-43 and 4-18-46. The first performance also starred Fredric March.

On 5-27-49 Spier produced "Spoils for Victor" for *THE PHILIP MORRIS PLAYHOUSE*. That script was produced twice on *SUSPENSE*, 5-23-46 & 5-24-59

### **THE TEN YEARS (6-2-49) #342**

Author: Mel Dinelli

JOAN CRAWFORD (Clara Foley), Lurene Tuttle (Adele Foley), Joseph Kearns (Judge), Pat Lowery (Adele as a child), Gloria McMillan (Clara as a child), Jerry Farber (Roy, aged 10), Gil Barnett (Doug, aged 10), Eda Reiss Merin (Mrs. Wallace), Paul Frees (Signature Voice)

COMMERCIAL: Bill Johnstone (Hap), Harlow Wilcox (Announcer), Sylvia Simms (Operator)

*An insane sister turns to murder when her sister gets married.*

NOTES: This script was originally produced on 2-8-45 as "A Tale of Two Sisters."

This show was pre-cut on 5-7-49 to appease Joan Crawford, who suffered from anxiety when acting on live radio.

Leith Stevens conducted the music score.

Crawford was originally to star in Mel Dinelli's story "The Hand", which was nixed by the sponsor as too gruesome

On 6-3-49 Spier produced "Lady Killer" for *THE PHILIP MORRIS PLAYHOUSE*. That script was also produced on *SUSPENSE*, 3-2-50

### **LUNCH KIT (6-9-49) #343**

Author: Larry Marcus

JOHN LUND (Jonathan), Norman Field (Dad / Voice), Joe Du Val (Mike / Timekeeper), Jeff Corey (Gus / Man 3), Murray Wagner (Guard / Graham), Ted de Corsia (Davis / Man 1), Bill Johnstone (Doctor / Voice 2), Paul Frees (Signature Voice)

COMMERCIAL: Harlow Wilcox (Announcer), Bill Johnstone (Hap), Sylvia Simms (Operator)

*A vengeful employee makes his son hide a bomb at his workplace.*

NOTE: Originally this story was produced on *THE WHISTLER* as "Death Carries a Lunch Kit" on 10-23-44

The script was produced again on 4-12-55

On 6-10-49 Spier produced "Drop Dead" for *THE PHILIP MORRIS PLAYHOUSE*

### **THE TRAP (6-16-49) #344**

Author: Virginia Myers

Adaptation by Walter Newman & Ralph Rose

AGNES MOOREHEAD (Helen Crane), Paul McVey (Detective), Herb Vigran (Eddie / Harry Penning), Ken Harvey (Marcus / Newsman), Joseph Greene (Holm / Driver), Robert Gist (Coleman), Ann Morrison (Information / Mrs. Holm), Meredith Leeds (Jessica / Classifieds), Paul Frees (Signature Voice)

COMMERCIAL: Bill Johnstone (Hap), Harlow Wilcox (Announcer), Sylvia Simms (Operator)

*A neurotic woman suspects there is another person living in her house.*

On 6-17-49 Spier produced "The Expert" for *THE PHILIP MORRIS PLAYHOUSE*

### **GHOST HUNT (6-23-49) #345**

Author: H. R. Wakefield

Adaptation by Walter Brown Newman

RALPH EDWARDS (Smiley Smith), Franklin Parker (Charles McDonald), Roland Winters (Thorpe), Herb Butterfield (Dr. Clarence Reed), Jeanette Rollins (Nurse), David Light (Jeff the dog), Paul Frees (Signature Voice)

COMMERCIAL: Bill Johnstone (Hap), Harlow Wilcox (Announcer), Sylvia Simms (Operator)

*A radio DJ regrets his decision to spend the night in a haunted house.*

On 6-24-49 Spier produced "Into the Mist" for *THE PHILIP MORRIS PLAYHOUSE*

### **THE DAY I DIED (6-30-49) #346**

Authors: Ken Pettus & Lou Schofield

JOSEPH COTTEN (Wells Gallaway), Ed Begley (Red Tuttle / Policeman), Tony Barrett (Driver / Counterman / Norman Vale), Kay Brinker (Lesley), Paul Frees (Signature Voice)

COMMERCIAL: Bill Johnstone (Hap), Harlow Wilcox (Announcer), Sylvia Simms (Operator)

*An embezzler is thought to have died in a fire, and he plays along to claim insurance, split with his "widow."*

NOTE: The working title of this script was "Revenge."

This was the final show of the 1948-49 season, and the last of 63 (including 51 for Electric Auto-Lite) directed by Anton Leader, who was fired over creative differences with CBS executives. For the first time, *SUSPENSE* leaves the air for a summer break. Incidentally, a week later on 7-7-49, future *SUSPENSE* producer-director Elliott Lewis begins his five-year radio directing career with a summer series of *BROADWAY IS MY BEAT*, a property transplanted from New York to Hollywood, and which gets picked up in the Fall.

While *SUSPENSE* was off the air, Bill Spier produced the following shows on *THE PHILIP MORRIS PLAYHOUSE*:

- 7-1-49, "Texas Killing"
- 7-8-49, "Babe Lincoln" starring his wife June Havoc
- 7-15-49, "Open the Door for Murder"
- 7-22-49, "The Third Grace"

- 7-29-49, "The Iron Man" (the last show of the current series).

After five weeks spent directing *THE JAMES MASON SHOW*, from August 4 to September 1, Spier returned to *SUSPENSE*.

For the next 44 weeks, William Spier is Producer and Editor of *SUSPENSE*. With Spier also busy producing and directing the *SAM SPADE* series, Harry Ackerman appoints Norman Macdonnell as studio Director of *SUSPENSE*, on Spier's recommendation.

For this season, the following were staff regulars.

Assistant director: Ted Rogers (unless noted)

Engineer: Stan Carr

Music composed by Lucien Morawek

Conductor: Lud Gluskin

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### **NIGHTMARE (9-1-49) #347**

Author: Samuel Blas

Adaptation by Herb Meadow

Sound: Dave Light, Clark Casey

GREGORY PECK (Ben), Lurene Tuttle (Elsa / Operator), Alan Reed (The Fat Man), Jeffrey Silver (Stevie), Howard McNear (Gas Station Attendant / Old Man), Ted Reid (Bartender / Sammy Crawford), Peggy Webber (Fat Man's Girl / Old Woman), Paul Frees (Signature Voice)

COMMERCIAL: Harlow Wilcox (Announcer)

*A distraught father seeks vengeance on whoever it was who killed his boy in a hit-run case.*

NOTE: First show of the 1949-50 season.

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### **CHICKEN FEED (9-8-49) #348**

Author: Lawrence Goldman

Sound: Dave Light, Clark Casey

RAY MILLAND (Ralph Clark), Ann Morrison (Girl), Charlie McGraw (Officer Brady / Hood #2), Jack Kruschen (Pete), Vivi Janiss (Waitress / Mary Clark), Bill Conrad (Slim), Ed Max (Sergeant Ross / Hood #1), Wally Maher (Jerry Nichols), Barney Phillips (Phillips), Paul Frees (Signature Voice)

COMMERCIAL: Harlow Wilcox (Announcer), Charlie Victor, Sylvia Simms (Operator)

*A lawyer is arrested for robbery and when he calls his wife (with whom he had earlier argued) she won't give him an alibi.*

NOTE: This script was also produced on 10-7-54 & 4-21-57

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### **LAST CONFESSION (9-15-49) #349**

Author: David Ellis

Sound: Dave Light

DOROTHY McGUIRE (Jessie Larkin), Joan Banks (Edna), Bill Tracy (Henry Hackers), Verna Felton (Henry's Mother), Ted Von Eltz (Pa), Bill Johnstone (Lieutenant Fleming), Betty Lou Gerson (Fran Gilbert), Peggy Webber (Barbara Keely), Paul Frees (Signature Voice)

COMMERCIAL: Harlow Wilcox (Announcer), Sylvia Simms (Operator), Charles Victor

*A woman begins to suspect she might have committed a murder.*

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**EXPERIMENT 6-R (9-22-49) #350**

Authors: Donald Stubbs & Harold Kahn

Sound: Dave Light

JOHN LUND (Morris Brant), Bill Conrad (Dr. Ernst Tomlinson / Hotel clerk), Ted Osborn (Paul Koblenz), Ann Morrison (Mrs. Oberman / Nurse), Paul Frees (Signature Voice)

COMMERCIAL: Harlow Wilcox (Announcer), Steve Roberts, Sylvia Simms (Operator)

*A hotel manager learns of a chemical powder and plans to kill his hated boss by poison.*

---

**BLIND DATE (9-29-49) #351**

Authors: E. Jack Neuman & Harrison Negley

CHARLES LAUGHTON (Vincent Hawthorne), JUNE HAVOC (Gloria LeFay), Sidney Miller (Stage manager), Paul Frees (Signature Voice)

COMMERCIAL: Parley Baer (Hap), Harlow Wilcox (Announcer), Sylvia Simms (Operator)

*A young woman regrets making a blind date with an eccentric knife-wielding man.*

NOTE: This script was also produced on 11-18-54

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**THE DEFENSE RESTS (10-6-49) #352**

Author: Rowland Brown

Adaptation by Robert L. Richards

Sound: Dave Light, Gus Bayz

VAN JOHNSON (Robert Tasker), Bill Johnstone (Craiger), Georgia Ellis (Peggy), Ted Osborn (Hines / Lieutenant), Dave Ellis (Harry / Clerk), Larry Dobkin

(Prison Warden / Attendant), Howard McNear (Captain / Judge), Paul Frees (Signature Voice)

COMMERCIAL: Parley Baer (Hap), Harlow Wilcox (Announcer), Sylvia Simms (Operator)

*An ex-con gets a job but he is soon being suspected of a murder he didn't commit.*

NOTE: This script was originally produced on 3-9-44

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**ACCOUNT PAYABLE (10-13-49) #353**

Author: Robert Platt

Sound: Dave Light, Gus Bayz

EDWARD ARNOLD (Timothy Baker), Joe Kearns (John Waterbury), Sammie Hill (Jessie), Ann Morrison (Miss Jones), John Dehner (Peter Galloway), Bill Tracy (Bill Waterbury), Paul Frees (Signature Voice)

COMMERCIAL: Harlow Wilcox (Announcer), Parley Baer (Hap), Sylvia Simms (Operator)

*A man's daughter is in love with his boss's son, but the boss doesn't want her in his family.*

---

**GOODNIGHT, MRS. RUSSELL (10-20-49) #354**

Author: Ben S. Hunter

Sound: Dave Light, Gus Bayz

BETTE DAVIS (Mrs. Russell), Elliott Reid (Henry), Ann Morrison (Diner 1), Lillian Buyeff (Diner 2), Gus Bayz, Dave Light (Ad-Libs), Paul Frees (Signature Voice)

COMMERCIAL: Parley Baer (Hap), Harlow Wilcox (Announcer), Sylvia Simms (Operator)

*A woman befriends a diner chef, who then kidnaps her.*

NOTE: This script was also produced on 8-3-54

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### **MOMENTUM (10-27-49) #355**

Author: Cornell Woolrich ("Murder Always Gathers Momentum")

Adaptation by E. Jack Neuman

Sound: Dave Light, Gus Bayz

VICTOR MATURE (Richard Paine), Lurene Tuttle (Pauline), Jay Novello (Italian Neighbor / Platform Janitor), Larry Dobkin (Burrough), Jeff Corey (Ed the Bartender / Train announcement voice), Jack Kruschen (Bailiff / Conductor), Vivi Janiss (Neighbor / Mother), Paul Frees (Signature Voice)

COMMERCIAL: Harlow Wilcox (Announcer). Parley Baer (Hap), Sylvia Simms (Operator)

*A man is cheated of his wages so he decides to rob the company safe.*

NOTE: Lurene Tuttle was given on air credit at end

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### **THE SEARCH FOR ISABEL (11-3-49) #356**

Author: Richard Vodra

Sound: Dave Light, Gus Bayz

RED SKELTON (Dick Brown), Cathy Lewis (Secretary / "Isabelle LaRue"), Joe Kearns (Man on phone / Police Lieutenant Bert / Max the bartender), Bill Conrad (Tony Desimoney), Jack Edwards, Jr. (Male Secretary / Elevator boy), Jay Novello (Harold Mason / John Worthington the drunk), Sidney Miller (Roy / Gun salesman), Paul Frees (Signature Voice)

COMMERCIAL: Parley Baer (Hap), Harlow Wilcox (Announcer), Sylvia Simms (Operator)

*A man in a new apartment gets various calls for a woman who lived there earlier, and his investigation leads him to criminals.*

NOTES: Spier had previously produced this script on *THE CLOCK* (ABC, 4-22-48) and *THE PHILIP MORRIS PLAYHOUSE* (CBS, 1-21-49)

Cathy Lewis gets co-star billing

Music for this show was co-composed by Rene Garriguenc & Lucien Morawek

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### **MURDER OF AUNT DELIA (11-10-49) #357**

Author: Lou Houston

Sound: Dave Light, Gus Bayz

VAN HEFLIN (Dort Sharples), Ted Von Eltz (Glendon Braley), Jeanne Tatum (Rena), Jane Morgan (Delia Farnum), Howard McNear (Bryce Crittenden), Paul Frees (Signature Voice)

COMMERCIAL: Harlow Wilcox (Announcer), Sylvia Simms (Operator)

*A hitchhiker kills a lookalike driver and assumes his name in order to cash in on an inheritance.*

NOTE: This script was also produced for *HOLLYWOOD STAR PLAYHOUSE* on 12-14-52, and again for *SUSPENSE* on 2-17-57

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### **THE RED-HEADED WOMAN (11-17-49) #358**

Author: Nancy J. Cleveland

Sound: Dave Light, Gus Bayz

LUCILLE BALL (Linda), DESI ARNAZ (Jose Lopez), Will Wright (Cabin



proprietor), Elliott Reid (Frank / Radio announcers), Virginia Gregg (Carmen / Girl 1), Vivi Janiss (Operator / Girl 2), Paul Frees (Jensen / Signature Voice)

COMMERCIAL: Parley Baer (Hap), Harlow Wilcox (Announcer), Sylvia Simms (Operator)

*A woman embezzles money and meets up with a man on the lam.*

---

**THE LONG WAIT (11-24-49) #359**

Author: Fred Freiberger

Sound: Dave Light, Gus Bayz

BURT LANCASTER (Dan Varell), Wally Maher (Lt. Len Bush / Tony), Sidney Miller (Hotel clerk / Shorty Thompson), Betty Lou Gerson (Lois Williams), Jack Moyles (Lou Henry / Tom), John Dehner (Numbers Johnson / Gus), Larry Dobkin (Phil / Tim Grady), Georgia Ellis (Glenda / Receptionist), Mary Lansing (June / Secretary), Wilms Herbert (Whitey / Museum guard), Paul Frees (Signature Voice)

COMMERCIAL: Ken Christy (Poet & Car), Harlow Wilcox (Announcer), Sylvia Simms (Operator)

*An ex-con hooks up with the woman responsible for the death of his brother.*

NOTE: Betty Lou Gerson gets co-star credit

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**MISSION COMPLETED (12-1-49) #360**

Author: John R. Forrest

Sound: Dave Light

JAMES STEWART (Tom Warner), Lurene Tuttle (Nurse Ginny Rhodes), John Dehner (Murdock's voice / Dr. Benson), Jeanette Nolan (Janet + Phone operator), Jeffrey Silver (Jacky), Larry Dobkin (Bill

Mason + Jimmy Cato), Harry Bartell (Orderly / Cop), Paul Frees (Signature Voice)

COMMERCIAL: Harlow Wilcox (Announcer), Ken Christy (Autolite guy), Sylvia Simms (Operator)

*A paralysed veteran is traumatized at seeing his old P.O.W. captor and seeks revenge.*

NOTES: A gag cameo at the end of this show features Gracie Allen, plugging *THE BURNS & ALLEN SHOW*

It sounds like Paul Frees has a cold

---

**FOR LOVE OR MURDER (12-8-49) #361**

Author: John Shaw

Sound: Dave Light, Gus Bayz

MICKEY ROONEY (Tommy), Lurene Tuttle (Anne Thomas), Joe Kearns (Old man / Billy the doorman), Barney Phillips (Mr. Thomas / Officer Dan Ryan), Ted Reid (Jimmy / Neighbor), Edgar Barrier (Voice on phone), Paul Frees (Signature Voice)

COMMERCIAL: Ken Christy (Remingchester Shotgun), Harlow Wilcox (Announcer), Sylvia Simms (Operator)

*A pianist hooks up with a woman who wants her husband dead.*

NOTE: Lurene Tuttle gets co-star billing at end

"The Second Prelude" by George Gershwin is heard in this show

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**THE FLAME BLUE GLOVE (12-15-49, PRE-CUT: 11-27) #362**

Author: Lois Eby & John C. Fleming

Adaptation by E. Jack Neuman

Sound: Gene Twombly, Gus Bayz

LANA TURNER (Sarah "Shadow" Conway), Lou Merrill (Dutch), Bill Johnstone (Jimmy Conway), Joan Banks (Kathy Dane), Olive Deering (Millicent), Virginia Gregg (Saleswoman + Judy Fleetwood), Paul Frees (Signature Voice)

COMMERCIAL: Harlow Wilcox (Announcer), Sylvia Simms (Operator)

*A private eye begins to suspect that her husband killed his first wife.*

NOTE: A transcribed show

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### **DOUBLE ENTRY (12-22-49) #363**

Author: Robert Minton

Sound: Dave Light, Gus Bayz

EDDIE CANTOR (Eddie Sullivan), Sidney Miller (Sam Crockett), Jerry Hausner (Fink Frees), Ted Von Eltz (Mr. Bartholomew), Wally Maher (Racetrack Announcer), Jack Kruschen (Jailer), David Light & Gus Bayz (Ad-Libs), Paul Frees (Signature Voice)

COMMERCIAL: Harlow Wilcox (Announcer), Betty Lou Gerson? (Reindeer), Sylvia Simms (Operator)

*A light-hearted show about theft, bookies and illegal betting.*

NOTES: Sidney Miller gets co-starring billing

Joe Kearns was originally to play both Bartholomew and the Jailer

This script was originally produced on 12-20-45. In the previous version, Hausner played Fink Martin. The change appears to be an in-joke

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### **THE BULLET (12-29-49) #364**

Author: Larry Marcus

Sound: Dave Light, Gus Bayz

IDA LUPINO (Ruth Martin), Elliott Lewis (Harry Martin), Edgar Barrier (Customer + Gun clerk), John Dehner (Worker + Lawyer), Bill Conrad (George Groves + Policeman on phone), Sidney Miller (Police Officer), Paul Frees (Signature Voice)

COMMERCIAL: June Foray (Happy), Harlow Wilcox (Announcer), Sylvia Simms (Operator)

*An ex-jailbird returns after three years and intends to take over the business his wife has built up.*

NOTE: The final of 69 shows for Paul Frees as the signature Narrator voice of *SUSPENSE*. Joe Kearns resumes this role from the next show, 1-5-50

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### **I NEVER MET THE DEAD MAN (1-5-50) #365**

Author: William Bruckner

Sound: Dave Light, Gus Bayz

DANNY KAYE (Joe Wycoff), Jeanette Nolan (Bella), Cy Kendall (Officer Callan), Hal March (Hugo), John McIntire (Pigeon Watts), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / Radio Announcer / Roy the bouncer)

COMMERCIAL: Harlow Wilcox (Announcer), Sylvia Simms (Operator), June Foray (Happy)

*An innocent bystander witnesses a killing and is arrested as the suspect.*

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**FOUR HOURS TO KILL (1-12-50)**  
**#366**

Author: Harold Swanton

Sound: Dave Light, Gus Bayz

ROBERT TAYLOR (Ted Pomeroy), Joe Kearns (Walter / Cop / Signature Voice), Virginia Gregg (Maxine / Operator 1), Charlotte Lawrence (Anna Lee / Susan), Barney Phillips (Tough guy on phone), Vivi Janiss (Operator 2), Larry Dobkin (Guy in phone booth / Eddie), Sidney Miller (Bellboy)

COMMERCIAL: Peter Leeds (Hamhock), Harlow Wilcox (Announcer), Sylvia Simms (Operator)

*A man kills his brother then finds that the phone was off the hook and his sibling's girlfriend heard everything.*

NOTES: Originally produced on *THE PHILIP MORRIS PLAYHOUSE*, 5-13-49. This story was also produced on *MURDER BY EXPERTS*, 6-19-50

The music for this show was co-composed by Rene Garriguenc and Lucien Morawek

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**THE ESCAPE OF LACEY ABBOTT**  
**(1-19-50) #367**

Author: Gilbert Thomas

Sound: Dave Light, Gus Bayz

WILLIAM POWELL (Lacey), Howard McNear (Westlund / Admissions voice), Jeanette Nolan (Fay the waitress / Ann), Joseph Kearns (Pop / Lieutenant Creekmore / Signature Voice), John McIntire (Martin Avery), Joan Banks (Mrs. Westlund), Gil Stratton, Jr. (Newsboy)

COMMERCIAL: Eleanor Audley (SPCTC Lady), Harlow Wilcox (Announcer), Sylvia Simms (Operator)

*A psych ward patient escapes and buys a gun, intent on murdering the lawyer who sent him up.*

NOTES: This script was also produced, as "Mad Man of Manhattan," on 3-8-59

Harlow Wilcox stumbles at the end, almost calling William Powell "Wilbur"

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**MR. DIOGENES (1-26-50) #368**

Author: Harold Swanton

Sound: Dave Light, Gus Bayz

OZZIE & HARRIET NELSON (Ozzie & Harriet), Joe Kearns (Hector Diogenes / Signature Voice), John McIntire (Captain Lem Pearson / Eddie), Jeanette Nolan (Mary Pearson), Hal March (Quiz Show Announcer / Man), Sidney Miller (Mordecai Moran / Prize Messenger)

COMMERCIAL: Ken Christy, Harlow Wilcox (Announcer), Sylvia Simms (Operator)

*An eccentric millionaire offers a contest with prize money.*

NOTE: Joe Kearns gets on air credit

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**CONSIDERATION (2-2-50) #369**

Author: Richard Vodra

Sound: Dave Light, Gus Bayz

ROSALIND RUSSELL (Ellen Forrester), John McIntire (Charles Forrester), Larry Dobkin (Bill), Joe Kearns (Dr. Hansen / Tom / Signature Voice), Vivi Janiss (Information Operator), Elliott Reid (Locksmith / Dry Ice Man), Joan Banks (Zell)

COMMERCIAL: Gil Stratton, Jr. (Cab Driver), Harlow Wilcox (Announcer), Sylvia Simms (Operator)



*A woman suspects her husband might be planning her death for a life insurance payout.*

NOTE: John McIntire gets on air credit

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**THE BUTCHER'S WIFE (2-9-50) #370**

Author: James Poe

Sound: Dave Light, Gus Bayz

KIRK DOUGLAS (Harry), Sidney Miller (Nick / Bartender), Joan Banks (Mary), Joe Kearns (Kraus / Signature Voice) + AD-LIBS: Vivi Janiss, Charlotte Lawrence, Eve McVeagh, Jimmy Eagles, Jim Nusser (Customers)

*A man falls hard for the flirtatious wife of a burly butcher.*

COMMERCIAL: Ken Christy (Remingchester Shotgun), Harlow Wilcox (Announcer), Sylvia Simms (Operator)

NOTE: This script was also produced, as "Never Steal a Butcher's Wife," on 8-10-54 and 12-29-57

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**MURDER STRIKES THREE TIMES (2-16-50) #371**

Author: John DeWitt

Sound: Dave Light, Gus Bayz

MARLENE DIETRICH (Laura Williams [aka Laura Starling-Morton]), Ted Reid (Radio Announcer / Jury Foreman), Joe Kearns (Robert Williams / Judge / Signature Voice), Hans Conried (Elmer Garner), Ted Osborn (Charles Morton), Ann Morrison (Hotel operator / Maid)

COMMERCIAL: Ann Morrison (Debbie), Harlow Wilcox (Announcer), Sylvia Simms (Operator)

*A widow marries and discovers her new brother-in-law is the lawyer who tried to convict her for murdering her first husband.*

NOTES: This script was originally produced on 10-3-46, as "Three Times Murder."

Hans Conried gets on air credit.

---

**SLOW BURN (2-23-50) (PRE-CUT 2-22) #372**

Author: Fred Fieberger

Sound: Gus Bayz, Berne Surrey

DICK POWELL (Johnny Wilson), Wally Maher (Lefty Wilkins / Operator), Larry Dobkin (Courtney Barr / Referee), Elliott Reid (Chuck Masters / Todd Sloane), Ann Morrison (Mother / Herald operator), Georgia Ellis (Dania Wilson / Waitress), Joe Kearns (Doc Peterson / Cop / Signature Voice), Berne Surrey & Gus Bayz (Ad-Libs)

COMMERCIAL: Jerry Hausner (Gas station guy), Harlow Wilcox (Announcer), Sylvia Simms (Operator)

*A professional boxer finds out the young rookie he is training is seeing his wife.*

NOTE: Kirk Douglas was originally announced to be the star of this show

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**LADY KILLER (3-2-50) #373**

Author: William Bruckner

Sound: Dave Light, Gus Bayz

LORETTA YOUNG (Peg Lincoln), Elliott Reid (Clerk at Hotel Ludwig), Jerry Hausner (Jack), Joseph Kearns (Telegram clerk / Signature Voice), Jeanne Bates (Stewardess / Operator), Larry Dobkin (Grant Benton / Airport P. A.), John McIntire (Chief Ray Longman)

COMMERCIAL: Ken Christy (Remingchester Shotgun), Harlow Wilcox (Announcer), Sylvia Simms (Operator)

*An insurance investigator suspects a young man may be trying to kill her.*

NOTES: Spier had previously produced this script on *THE PHILIP MORRIS PLAYHOUSE* (6-3-49). "The Pit and the Pendulum" is announced as next week's show.

---

**BANQUO'S CHAIR (3-9-50) #374**

Author: Rupert Kroft-Cooke

Adaptation by Sigmund Miller

Sound: Dave Light, Gus Bayz

JAMES MASON (Sir William Brent), Pamela Kellino (Roberta Stone), John Dehner (Arthur Grange / Officer), Colin Campbell (Lane), Norma Varden (Hilda), Gloria Gordon (Aunt Martha Ferguson), Hans Conried (John Bedford), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice)

COMMERCIAL: Ken Christy (Hap), Harlow Wilcox (Announcer), Sylvia Simms (Operator)

*A ghostly incident occurs at a dinner party being held to expose a murderer.*

NOTES: This script was originally produced on 6-1-43 and 8-3-44

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**MOTIVE FOR MURDER (3-16-50) #375**

Author: John & Ward Hawkins

Adaptation by E. Jack Neuman

Sound: Dave Light, Gus Bayz

ALAN LADD ("Irish" Dave), Joe Kearns (Jock / Father / Signature Voice), John Dehner (Charlie / Eddy), Virginia Gregg (Mary / Woman), Jeanette Nolan (Landlady / Cecilia Breckenbridge), Georgia Ellis (Harrett Blodgett / Elsie), Howard McNear (Richards / Man), Larry Dobkin (Harold Dolph)

COMMERCIAL: Joe DuVal (Hap), (Remingchester), Harlow Wilcox (Announcer), Sylvia Simms (Operator)

*A detective's wife is suspected of murder.*

NOTES: This story was originally produced on *RADIO CITY PLAYHOUSE*, 6-20-49

Richard Widmark was originally to star in this show

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**ONE & ONE'S A LONESOME (3-23-50) #376**

Author: Nelson Sykes

Sound: Dave Light, Gus Bayz

RONALD REAGAN (George Dellack), Cathy Lewis (Marie), Joe Kearns (Henry Grover / Signature Voice), Larry Dobkin (Jim Brandon), Jack Kruschen (Lt. Williams / Train caller)

COMMERCIAL: Joe DuVal, Harlow Wilcox (Announcer), Sylvia Simms (Operator)

*A returned soldier goes back to work but installs an illegal gambling room and soon plots his boss's death.*

NOTE: Cathy Lewis gets on air credit

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**BLOOD SACRIFICE (3-30-50) #377**

Author: Dorothy L. Sayers

Adaptation by Malcolm Meacham

Sound: Dave Light, Gus Bayz

JOSEPH COTTEN (Johnny Scales), Whitfield Connor (Garrick Drury / Voice 1), Hans Conried (Walter / Critic #4), Tudor Owen (Scotty / Critic #2), John Dehner (The Bobby / Mike the Reporter), Joe Kearns (Doctor / George / Signature Voice), Larry Dobkin (Sheridan / Interne), Jeanette Nolan (Florrie / Critic #3), Vivi Janiss (Mollie)

COMMERCIAL: Joe DuVal (Hap), Harlow Wilcox (Announcer), Sylvia Simms (Operator)

*A playwright and an actor are in an accident, and the actor needs a blood transfusion.*

NOTE: Cary Grant is announced as the star of next week's show, however he didn't appear on any show in this season.

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**SALVAGE (4-6-50) 3378**

Author: Sidney Renthal

Sound: Dave Light, Gus Bayz

VAN JOHNSON (Danny Connor), Georgia Ellis (Gloria), Joe Kearns (Wendell Davis / Signature Voice), Elliott Reid (Scotty), Bill Conrad (Freighter Captain), Gus Bayz (Ad-Libs)

COMMERCIAL: Jerry Hausner (Cab Driver), Harlow Wilcox (Announcer), Sylvia Simms (Operator)

*A rich man is on a treasure hunt at sea, while both his wife and a younger man are hoping to get rid of him.*

---

**SIX FEET UNDER (4-13-50) #379**

Author: Joel Murcott

Assistant director: Lucian Davis

Sound: Dave Light, Gus Bayz

DAN DAILEY (Jack), John McIntire (Sheriff / Bartender), Hal March (Cliff / Clerk), Joe Kearns (Barney / Old man / Signature Voice), Jeanette Nolan (Anna / Old Lady), Olive Deering (Miriam), Ann Whitfield (Boy), Gus Bayz & Dave Light (Ad-Libs)

COMMERCIAL: Ken Christy (Hap), Harlow Wilcox (Announcer), Sylvia Simms (Operator)

*A circus performer's act entails being buried alive. But his cheating wife intends to turn off his air supply.*

---

**PEARLS ARE A NUISANCE (4-20-50) #380**

Author: Raymond Chandler

Adaptation by Ranauld McDougall

Sound: Dave Light, Gus Bayz

RAY MILLAND (Walter Gage), Mary Jane Croft (Ellen McIntosh), Jack Kruschen (Manager / Lew Scandesi), Hal March (Henry Eichelberger), John Dehner (Contact Man / Filter), Howard McNear (Roger Gallemore), Bill Johnstone (Sig. voice / Teller)

COMMERCIAL: unknown (Dora), Harlow Wilcox (Announcer), Sylvia Simms (Operator)

*A humorous tale of a private detective on a valuable stolen jewels case.*

NOTES: This script was originally produced on 4-19-45; Hal March gets credit on-air

At the end, Wilcox notes that *Radio Mirror* magazine has voted *SUSPENSE* "best mystery program for the second year running."

---

**THE CHAIN (4-27-50) #381**

Author: Joel Murcott

Sound: Dave Light, Gus Bayz

AGNES MOOREHEAD (Leonora Carpenter), John McIntire (George Carpenter / Signature Voice), Jeanette Nolan (Abby / Operator), Jay Novello (Peter Koshevski), Robert Gist (Reynolds), Bill Conrad (Police Lieutenant)

COMMERCIAL: Ken Christy (Hap), Harlow Wilcox (Announcer), Sylvia Simms (Operator)

*A nasty woman sends a damaging chain letter that results in a death.*

NOTE: This script was also produced on 3-9-58

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**STATEMENT OF MARY BLAKE  
(5-4-50) #382**

Author: Shirley Gordon

Sound: Dave Light, Gus Bayz

JOAN BENNETT (Mary Blake), Bill Johnstone (Sig. voice / Dr. Gregory Martin), Junius Matthews (Professor Lee / Sentencing Judge), Ruth Perrot (Matron / Lorna Martin), Bill Conrad (Detective), John Dehner (Judge / Warden), Joe Kearns (Prosecuting Lawyer / Signature Voice), Tudor Owen (Witness / Clerk), Edgar Barrier (Medical Examiner / Foreman)

COMMERCIAL: Ken Christy (Hap), Harlow Wilcox (Announcer), Sylvia Simms (Operator)

*A woman begins working for a scientist who develops a poison that kills instantly. She is soon set up as a suspect in his wife's murder.*

---

**THE MAN IN THE ROOM (5-11-50)  
#383**

Authors: William Idelson & Mary Castle

Sound: Dave Light, Gus Bayz

JOHN LUND (Bert Freeland), Wilms Herbert (Gracklin the Elevator Man), Lurene Tuttle (Miss Markham), Joe Kearns (George / Cab Driver / Signature Voice), Bill Conrad (Policeman)

COMMERCIAL: Ken Christy (Hap), Harlow Wilcox (Announcer), Sylvia Simms (Operator)

*A writer's story is almost identical to what is happening for real when his editor is murdered.*

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**ANGEL FACE (5-18-50) #384**

Author: Cornell Woolrich

Adaptation by Gil Doud & Bob Tallman

Sound: Dave Light, Gus Bayz

CLAIRE TREVOR (Gerry Wheeler, aka Fay Angel), Jeanne Bates (Suzette White), Doris Singleton (Rubyrose), Dave Light (Dog), Ted Reid (Chick Wheeler / Doorman), Hal March (Lt. Nick Burns), John Dehner (Sergeant Coley), Jerry Hausner (Rocco), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / Mac / Police Captain), Larry Dobkin (Milt Miletis)

COMMERCIAL: Ken Christy (Hap), Harlow Wilcox (Announcer), Sylvia Simms (Operator)

*A nightclub singer must clear her brother's name in time for him to avoid execution.*

NOTE: This story was originally produced on *THE PHILIP MORRIS PLAYHOUSE*, 11-12-48

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**VERY MUCH LIKE A NIGHTMARE  
(5-25-50) #385**

Authors: M. Carl Holman & John Michael Hayes

Sound: Dave Light, Gus Bayz

DENNIS O'KEEFE (Barclay McClain), Jerry Hausner (Eddie / 1<sup>st</sup> Man), Yvonne Peattie (Marie Dupree), Joan Banks (Catherine Warriner), Jack Edwards (Farris / Elevator Operator), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / Gillman / Police Officer), Mike Barrett (Miss Tyler / Operator), Jay Novello (Joe), Howard McNear (Albert / 2<sup>nd</sup> Man), John Dehner (Petey)

COMMERCIAL: Ken Christy (Hap), Harlow Wilcox (Announcer), Sylvia Simms (Operator)

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*An employee works late and falls asleep, awakening to find the building is being robbed.*

NOTE: According to Darryl Shelton, Donald O'Connor was originally to play the lead.

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**A CASE OF NERVES (6-1-50) #386**

Author: Lawrence Goldman

Sound: Dave Light, Gus Bayz

EDWARD G. ROBINSON (Albert Baker), Jeanette Nolan (Nellie / Woman), Larry Dobkin (Dr. Martin), Joan Banks (Pauline White), Virginia Gregg (Louise Baker), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / Dr. Vantoor)

COMMERCIAL: Ken Christy (Hap), Harlow Wilcox (Announcer), Sylvia Simms (Operator)

*A man fakes an illness in order to get a prescription with which he can kill his wife.*

NOTE: This script was also produced on 4-24-56

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**THE CASE OF HENRI VIBARD (6-8-50) #387**

Author: Bradbury Foote

Sound: Dave Light, Bill Gould

CHARLES BOYER (Henri Vibard, alias LeClerq), Virginia Gregg (Mary Vibard), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / Jack Randall), Bill Johnstone (Dr. Sampson), Dan O'Herlihy (Sergeant Freeman), Ted Osborn (Nate Blackburn)

COMMERCIAL: unknown (Dora), Harlow Wilcox (Announcer), Sylvia Simms (Operator)

*A man with no identity is alive and well, but was supposed to have been murdered two years earlier.*

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**\*\* DEADLINE (6-15-50) #388**

Author: John S. Monsos

Sound: Dave Light, Gus Bayz

BRODERICK CRAWFORD (Julius Collins), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / D. A.), Jay Novello (Rossini), Georgia Ellis (Martha Grace), John Hoyt (Trump), Tony Barrett (Phillips) + doubles: Newsboy, Lockhart

*A corrupt businessman inherits a newspaper and colludes with criminals.*

NOTE: This show is unavailable for review, no recording is available

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**THE ONE MILLIONTH JOE (6-22-50) #389**

Author: Silvia Richards

Assistant director: Dale Harper

Sound: Dave Light, Ray Erlenborn

Music: Rene Garriguenc & Lucien Morawek

JACK CARSON (Al Jazant), Howard McNear (Wilder), Doris Singleton (Vera), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / Mr. Thompson), Harry Bartell (Arthur / 2<sup>nd</sup> reporter), Sid Miller (1st reporter), Roy Rowan (P. A.), Dave Light, Ray Erlenborn (Ad-Libs)

COMMERCIAL: Ed East (Hap), Harlow Wilcox (Announcer), Sylvia Simms (Operator)

*A man wins a cash prize and is then discovered to be a wanted thief absconding with a fortune.*

NOTES: Spier originally produced this script on *THE PHILIP MORRIS PLAYHOUSE*, 12-24-48



Opening drama prologue now precedes the first Auto-Lite spot, a format which will be adopted in the next season.

**LOVE, HONOR OR MURDER  
(6-29-50) #390**

Author: Larry Marcus

Musical Conductor: Lyn Murray (subbing for Lud Gluskin)

Sound: Dave Light, Guz Bayz

Cathy Lewis (Helen), Elliott Lewis (Harry), Barney Phillips (Announcer / Voice 1), Verna Felton (Voice 2), John Dehner (Walker / Voice 3), Jerry Hausner (Cabbie), Larry Dobkin (Voice 4), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice)

*A husband and wife argue over his boss's lost wallet, and she threatens to leave him if he returns the \$12,000 in cash.*

NOTES: This script was also produced on 8-9-55

Final show of the season, and the final *SUSPENSE* show produced by William Spier (aside from a guest director appearance on 9-15-52). Norman Macdonnell will return to *SUSPENSE* once in 1953, then resume a series in 1954

The show breaks for the summer.

Elliott Lewis, on Spier's recommendation, becomes the new producer-director of *SUSPENSE* for the next four years, doing a total of 170 shows. He is concurrently producing and directing *BROADWAY IS MY BEAT* and portraying Frank Remley weekly on NBC's *THE PHIL HARRIS-ALICE FAYE SHOW*. As if that was not enough for one born radio renaissance man, he is also producing

the series *PURSUIT* (to which he had been assigned on 1-6-50) and finishing up the first series of *THE LINEUP* (7-6-50 to 9-23-50). [When Lewis took over *SUSPENSE*, *THE LINEUP* was revived in the fall under Jaimie Del Valle].

For these Elliott Lewis productions, the musical scores are composed by Lucien Morawek and conducted by Lud Gluskin. Occasional changes are noted.

Harlow Wilcox continues as the commercial voice of Auto-Lite from here through the final sponsored show on 6-7-54

Joe Kearns remains the Signature Voice narrator for this season

*SUSPENSE* moves to Thursdays, 9:00-9:30 pm ET

**TRUE REPORT (8-31-50, PRE-CUT  
8-24) #391**

Authors: John Michael Hayes & E. Jack Neuman

PAT O'BRIEN (Inspector Kennedy), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / Josti), Peggy Webber (Mrs. Thurston), Edgar Barrier (Voice 2 / Morgue), Leonard Smith (Radio A / Rix), Sam Edwards (Voice / Charles), Hal March (Geiger / Loper), Ed Max (Sergeant / Lab), Irene Tedrow (Alice)

COMMERCIAL: Bert Holland (Hap), Harlow Wilcox (Announcer), Sylvia Simms (Operator)

*A police inspector after a get-away car learns his son is involved in a hit-and-run killing.*

NOTE: At the end of this show, Royce Martin (the President of Electric Auto-Lite

Co.) accepts the National Safety Award for the second year running.

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**\* THE TIP (9-7-50) #392**

Author: Carl Abrams

IDA LUPINO (Elaine Stratton), Herb Butterfield (The Stranger), Harry Bartell (George), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / Mr. Raymond / Officer), Jerry Hausner (Salesman), Hy Averbach (Repairman / Man), Henry Blair (Michael)

*A woman finds an armed stranger in her house waiting to kill her husband.*

NOTES: This show is unavailable for review, with no recording known

This script was also produced on 7-6-54

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**OVER THE BOUNDING MAIN (9-14-50) #393**

Authors: Jimmy Barnett & Gloria Elmore

Adaptation by Antony Ellis

DAN DAILEY (Marty Evans), Bill Conrad (Captain Moran), Tony Barrett (Ignacio), Georgia Ellis (Claire Evans), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice)

COMMERCIAL: Bert Holland (Hap), Harlow Wilcox (Announcer), Sylvia Simms (Operator)

*On a charter boat a man learns his wife and the captain are lovers, and his life is in danger.*

NOTE: This script was also produced on 6-21-55

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**THE CROWD (9-21-50) #394**

Author: Ray Bradbury

Adaptation by Morton Fine & David Friedkin

DANA ANDREWS (Lt. Johnny Stillano), Howard McNear (Doc Gilbert), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / Charles Turner), Jerry Hausner (Marty / Smart aleck in subway), Jack Kruschen (Sgt. Riorden), Lou Merrill (Elliott Becker / Voice 1), Bob Bruce (Jones / Burke), Truda Marson (Angry Woman / Voice 2), Lou Krugman (Voice 4 [Man yelling in subway] / Man who confesses), Irene Tedrow (Mrs. Shirley), Byron Kane (Voice 3 / Joe the diner proprietor)

COMMERCIAL: Bert Holland (Hap), Harlow Wilcox (Announcer), Sylvia Simms (Operator)

*A serial killer is savvy enough to avoid a police lieutenant by always blending in with the crowd.*

---

**FLY BY NIGHT (9-28-50) #395**

Authors: George & Gertrude Fass

Adaptation by Morton Fine & David Friedkin

JOSEPH COTTEN (Mickey Manning), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / Druggist / Julius Benning), Herb Vigran (Sergeant Kogan / Man), Larry Dobkin (Charlie Borden), Ed Max (Lt. Driscoll), Mary Shipp (Mary Manning), Cathy Lewis (Irene Conway), Peggy Webber (Woman in theatre), Billy Halop (Usher), George Baxter (Shreyer / Cop)

COMMERCIAL: Bert Holland (Hap), Harlow Wilcox (Announcer), Sylvia Simms (Operator)

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*A suspect, deprived of needed sleep, confesses to a crime, but escapes and must prove his innocence.*

---

**THE ROSE GARDEN (10-5-50) #396**

Author: Sumner Locke Elliott

Adaptation by Antony Ellis

MIRIAM HOPKINS (Effie Trimbal), Jeanette Nolan (Miss Bone), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / Doctor), Byron Kane (Richards / Chang the Cat), Irene Tedrow (Cousin Amy), Jeffrey Silver (Boy)

COMMERCIAL: Bert Holland (Hap), Harlow Wilcox (Announcer), Sylvia Simms (Operator), Johnny McGovern? (Johnny Plugcheck)

*A nasty woman tries to get rid of a tenant but ends up scaring her to death.*

NOTES: The original title of this story was "Miss Bone"

Milton Berle is heard in a pre-recorded teaser for the following week's show

---

**RAVE NOTICE (10-12-50, PRE-CUT 7-21) #397**

Author: James Poe

MILTON BERLE (Sam), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / Norman / Judge), Peter Leeds (Guard), Howard McNear (Doctor / Man 2), Herb Butterfield (Second Doctor / Man [Actor]), Hal March (Shopkeeper / Driver), Hy Averbach (Second Guard / Judge), Sidney Miller (Lawyer)

COMMERCIAL: Ken Christy, Harlow Wilcox (Announcer), Sylvia Simms (Operator)

*A jealous actor shoots his stage director then must really prove his thespic chops by feigning insanity.*

NOTES: This script was also produced on 10-21-54 & 6-1-58

Berle pre-recorded this show three months earlier, while on a summer break in Hollywood. By the time it aired, he was back in New York and already rehearsing the fifth show of his hugely popular TV series, *TEXACO STAR THEATRE* (the third season premiered on 9-19-50)

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**THE WAGES OF SIN (10-19-50) #398**

Authors: John Michael Hayes & E. Jack Neuman

BARBARA STANWYCK (Ruby Miller), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / Victor Sheridan), Lou Merrill (Police Captain Doric Salvatore), John Dehner (Cooper [Man on phone] / Cop), John Hoyt (Clint Fisher), Clayton Post (Voice / Police Sergeant), Charles Calvert (Doctor / Voice 2), Jerry Hausner (Frank)

COMMERCIAL: Bert Holland (Hap), Harlow Wilcox (Announcer), Sylvia Simms (Operator), Jerry Maren? (Johnny Plugcheck)

*The police investigate a murder but have trouble proving a woman paid for the hit.*

---

**CONCERTO FOR KILLER AND EYEWITNESSES (PRE-CUT 10-21-50, NEVER AIRED)**

Authors: E. Jack Neuman & Arthur Ross

JOHN GARFIELD (Eddie Sitko), Bill Conrad (Jesse Crandell / Usher), Jay Novello (Delaney / Milton), Ed Max (Porter / Reader), Irene Tedrow (Mamma), Junius Matthews (George), Jerry Hausner (Kenny), Peter Virgo (Cop), Gil Stratton, Jr. (Bellhop), Michael Ann Barrett (Kitty)

*A man escapes custody and gets a gun, intent on finding who framed him.*

NOTES: This broadcast was a victim of the HUAC witch hunt. Garfield had been named a Communist sympathizer. Never a political person, he admitted he somewhat



naively supported various causes, but he absolutely refused to name names. He was thus simply too controversial for Auto-Lite and CBS, and despite Elliott Lewis' best efforts the show was fated to be shelved. A cast list and recording date indicate a raw performance exists on tape or acetate, but no recording has surfaced, and it seems doubtful an assembled show with music cues was made.

The script, at first titled "Concerto for a Killer" was finally produced on 6-9-52, with producer-director Elliott Lewis in the lead role

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### **TOO HOT TO LIVE (10-26-50) #399**

Author: Sam Rolfe

RICHARD WIDMARK (Jefferson Casey), Paul Frees (Sheriff Benjamin Maxwell), Howard McNear (Brakeman / Driver), Junius Matthews (Pop Clovis), Mary Jane Croft (Rachael), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / Kenny), Jonathan Hole (Hale [Restaurant stranger]), Noreen Gamill (Woman with trash can)

COMMERCIAL: Bert Holland (Hap), Harlow Wilcox (Announcer), Sylvia Simms (Operator), Jerry Maren? (Johnny Plugcheck)

*A stranger in a small southwestern town is arrested for murdering a young woman.*

NOTE: This script was also produced on 6-29-54 & 4-12-59

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### **THE VICTORIA CROSS (11-2-50) #400**

Authors: Gil Doud & Antony Ellis

HERBERT MARSHALL (Vail), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / Forbes), Charles Davis (Bateman), Terry Kilburn (Orde), Eileen Erskine (Maggie / Nurse), Herb Butterfield (Walkerly / Man), Alec

Harford (Man 2), Philip Friend (Jennings / Man 3)

COMMERCIAL: Ken Christy, Harlow Wilcox (Announcer), Sylvia Simms (Operator)

*A housemaster in a British boarding school is blackmailed by a student.*

NOTE: The working title was "Housemaster"

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### **BLOOD ON THE TRUMPET (11-9-50) #401**

Author: Richard-George Pedicini

Trumpet effects played by Ziggy Elman

WILLIAM HOLDEN (Victor), Jack Kruschen (Cassieux), Barton Yarborough (Juno), Cathy Lewis (Sarah / Creole), Eddy Fields (Lou), Alvina Temple (Luana), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / Angelini)

COMMERCIAL: Bert Holland (Hap), Dal McKennon (effect), Harlow Wilcox (Announcer), Sylvia Simms (Operator)

*A musician in New Orleans is involved in an affair and then his wife gets killed.*

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### **ON A COUNTRY ROAD (11-16-50, PRE-CUT ON 11-7) #402**

Author: Walter Bazar

CARY GRANT (David), Cathy Lewis (Dorothy), Jeanette Nolan (Nellie), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / Policeman), Larry Thor (News Announcer)

COMMERCIAL: Harlow Wilcox (Announcer), Ken Christy (Senator), Sylvia Simms (Operator)

*A couple driving at night stall the car and are terrorized by an old woman who may be an insane killer.*

NOTE: This script, a notably popular one, was also produced on 1-4-54, 12-9-54 and 5-10-59

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**GOING, GOING, GONE (11-23-50) #403**

Author: P. A. Taylor

Adaptation by Antony Ellis

OZZIE NELSON (Wally Pindell),  
HARRIET HILLIARD (Jen), Junius  
Matthews (Anton Minchie), Joe Kearns  
(Signature Voice / Voice 2 / Mr. Fling),  
Jack Kruschen (Police Sergeant Dixon),  
Joe Forte (Merton the auctioneer), Dick  
Ryan (Spotter / Officer's Voice), Florence  
Lake (Woman on party line)

COMMERCIAL: Bert Holland (Hap),  
Harlow Wilcox (Announcer), Sylvia  
Simms (Operator), Dal McKennon?  
(Turkey gobble)

*A couple discover the sealed trunk they bid  
for at an auction is filled with valuable  
jewels.*

NOTE: This script was also produced on  
5-10-55

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**THE LADY IN THE RED HAT (11-30-50) #404**

Author: Clock Dailey

Adaptation by Antony Ellis

VAN HEFLIN (Mitchell), Joan Banks  
(Jeannie), Paul McVey (Banning), Truda  
Marson (Receptionist), Jack Lloyd (Man  
1 / Waiter), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice /  
Man 2 / Lt. Bill Dowell)

COMMERCIAL: Bert Holland (Hap),  
Harlow Wilcox (Announcer), Sylvia  
Simms (Operator)

*A serial killer contacts a reporter who is  
covering the case.*

NOTES: Working title was "The  
Thirteenth Apostle" (it had been  
announced by that title the previous week)

This script was also produced on 8-30-55.

---

**AFTER THE MOVIES (12-7-50) #405**

Author: Jack Finney

Adaptation by David Ellis & Robert L.  
Richards

RAY MILLAND (Albert Bennig), Bill  
Conrad (Dan), Tony Barrett (Johnnie),  
Jack Kruschen (Sam / Elevator Operator),  
Cathy Lewis (Ann Bennig), Jerry Hausner  
(Adelson), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice)

COMMERCIAL: Ken Christy (Santa),  
Harlow Wilcox (Announcer), Sylvia  
Simms (Operator)

*A juror in a murder trial turns down a  
cash bribe of \$10,000 and his wife is then  
kidnapped.*

NOTE: This script was also produced on  
9-6-59

---

**A KILLING IN ABILENE (12-14-50) #406**

Authors: Gil Doud & Antony Ellis

ALAN LADD (Jack Mander), Parley Baer  
(Sheriff Jake Garvey), Barton Yarborough  
(Ben), Jack Kruschen (Needle), Jeanette  
Nolan (Mrs. Sarah Costen), Joe Duval  
(Jim / Eakin), James Eagles (Bob), Russell  
Simpson (Old-timer), John Dehner (Lee  
Burrage), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice)

COMMERCIAL: Bert Holland (Hap),  
Harlow Wilcox (Announcer), Sylvia  
Simms (Operator)

*A stranger arrives in a western town  
seeking his brother's murderer.*

NOTES: Working titles: "The Killer in  
Abilene" and "Innocent in Abilene"

This western story is very close to the dark and noir feel of the *GUNSMOKE* series to come. The musical underscore - a variation on "Bury Me Not on the Lone Prairie" - by Lucien Morawek was later recorded and used periodically on *GUNSMOKE* in the 1957-61 era of library music cues.

Three days after this show, *ESCAPE* presented "Wild Jack Rhett," acknowledged as one of the earliest in the adult western style. Three cast members from this *SUSPENSE* were also in that week's *ESCAPE* show (Baer, Simpson and Dehner).

This script was also produced on 2-3-55

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### **CHRISTMAS FOR CAROLE (12-21-50) #407**

Author: David Freedman

DENNIS DAY (Paul), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / Harvey Forbes / Man), Ted de Corsia (Lt. Weisman, alias Rocky Perrea), Sidney Miller (Eddie the bookie), Ruth Perrott (Ada Forbes / Woman), Ed Max (Doctor), Joyce McCluskey (Carole / Second Woman), David Light (2<sup>nd</sup> Man / Baby), Chorus

COMMERCIAL: Bert Holland (Hap), Harlow Wilcox (Announcer), Sylvia Simms (Operator)

*A man is tempted to robbery on Christmas Eve in order to pay for a nurse for his new child.*

NOTES: Dennis Day sings "The First Noel"

This show did not begin with the dramatic prologue

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### **A RING FOR MARYA (12-28-50) #408**

Author: Louis Pollock

CORNEL WILDE (John Markov), Irene Tedrow (Marya), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / Fire Marshal), Larry Thor (Detective Holbrook), Charles Calvert (Sergeant), Don Morrison (Frank / Official), Tom Holland (Policeman), Jean Young (Girl)

COMMERCIAL: Bert Holland (Hap), Harlow Wilcox (Announcer), Sylvia Simms (Operator)

*A man talks his fiancée into committing arson, for which she gets badly burned.*

On 12-30-50, the show "Aria from Murder" was pre-cut
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### **ALIBI ME (1-4-51) #409**

Author: Therd Jefre

Adaptation by Walter Brown Newman

MICKEY ROONEY (Georgie), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / Lt. Larkin), Sidney Miller (Julius), Peggy Webber (Mrs. Ettinger the landlady), Wally Maher (Tim), Leo Cleary (Leo the bartender), Charlotte Lawrence (Joanie), Henry Blair (Delivery boy)

COMMERCIAL: Bert Holland (Hap), Harlow Wilcox (Announcer), Sylvia Simms (Operator)

*A hood kills a rival and tries desperately to establish an alibi.*

NOTE: This script was also produced on 4-20-58

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**VAMP TILL DEAD (1-11-51) #410**

Authors: E. Jack Neuman & John Michael Hayes

GINGER ROGERS (Amy Watkins), John Hoyt (Paul Gentry), Jeanette Nolan (Jenny), Ed Max (Al Pender), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice)

COMMERCIAL: Bert Holland (Hap), Harlow Wilcox (Announcer), Sylvia Simms (Operator)

*A novelist who once got off a murder charge hires a woman as his secretary.*

NOTES: This show gives rare on-air credit to the supporting players. In five weeks, with the show of 2-15-51, on-air credits would finally become regular policy.

No dramatic prologue

This script was also produced on 9-29-57

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**THE TWIST IS MURDER (1-13-51, UNAIED)**

Author: S. Lee Pogostin

Adaptation by David Ellis

HOWARD DUFF (Chris Turner), Ed Max (Ken Avery), Cathy Lewis ("Doris" / Lois Avery), Marlo Dwyer (Harriet Crawford), Jerry Hausner ("George" / Hank)

*A radio mystery writer is insulted and decides to do away with his producer.*

NOTE: Even though this show was assembled with music cues on 2-5 (it also exists as a drama-only raw recording), Duff's name in *Red Channels* ensured that it wouldn't be aired. It was finally produced, as "A Murderous Revision," starring Richard Widmark on 12-3-51, and also on 7-28-57 as "Murder on Mike" with Raymond Burr.

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**THE WELL-DRESSED CORPSE (1-18-51) #411**

Authors: E. Jack Neuman & John Michael Hayes

EVE ARDEN (Ruth Franklin), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / Percy Hamilton), Jack Kruschen (Tony the bartender), Charles Calvert (Sergeant Collins), Howard McNear (Apartment neighbor / Policeman at end), Clayton Post (Eddie / Yates), Larry Thor (Lt. Rourke), Lamont Johnson (Roy Mason), Mary Jane Croft ("Petey" Wright), Irene Tedrow (Woman in Alley / Elsie), Peter Virgo (Joe, the cop)

COMMERCIAL: Jerry Hausner (Sam the Autolite dealer), Harlow Wilcox (Announcer), Sylvia Simms (Operator)

*A business woman who feels scorned and humiliated shoots her once-intended, and then plans to kill his fiancé.*

NOTE: This script was also produced on 10-13-57

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**ARIA FROM MURDER (1-25-51, PRE-CUT: 12-30-50) #412**

Author: Richard-George Pedicini

EZIO PINZA (Nicolo), Junius Matthews (Charlie the doorman / Sergeant), Cathy Lewis (Leola), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / Felix Levine), Wally Maher (Lt. Morgan Redd), Howard McNear (Stage Manager), Tony Barrett (Hemp)

COMMERCIAL: Bert Holland (Hap), Harlow Wilcox (Announcer), Sylvia Simms (Operator)

*A famous opera baritone kills his manager and is then blackmailed by a man who saw it happen.*

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**FRAGILE, CONTENTS: DEATH (2-1-51) #413**

Author: John F. Suter

PAUL DOUGLAS (Douglas Jordan), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice/ Ed Williams), Howard McNear (Joe Stewart), Lee Millar (Hartley the clerk), Lou Merrill (phone voice / Sergeant Malloy), Joy Terry (Operator), Herb Butterfield (Fox / Sergeant Rock the driver), Mary Lansing (Alice Jordan), Naomi Stevens (Mrs. Bates)

COMMERCIAL: Ken Christy (Oscar), Harlow Wilcox, Sylvia Simms

*A desperate search for a postal article containing a time bomb.*

NOTE: This was the final show with the prologue drama

This script was also produced on 5-22-56

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**THE WINDY CITY SIX (2-8-51, PRE-CUT 1-20) #414**

Authors: E. Jack Neuman & John Michael Hayes

FRED MACMURRAY (Carstairs "Ham" Hamilton), Mary Jane Croft (Cora Lee), Jack Kruschen (Chick), Eddie MacDonald (Big Mike Donovan), Hy Averbach (Corny), Clayton Post (Bull Hurley), Frank Richards (Red Rocks Farrell), Lee Millar (Policeman / Thurber Jones), Jerry Hausner (Rip), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice)

Music played by Red Nichols and His Five Pennies

COMMERCIAL: Tony Barrett (Pepito), Harlow Wilcox (Announcer), Sylvia Simms (Operator)

*A 1920s bandleader witnesses a killing and the gangster involved asks for his group to play a private party.*

NOTE: MacDonald & Croft are given on-air credit

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**THE DEATH PARADE (2-15-51, PRE-CUT 1-27) #415**

Author: Shirley Gordon

Adaptation by Antony Ellis

AGNES MOOREHEAD (Ellen Johnson), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / Police Sergeant), Jack Kruschen (Tough Man 1 / Officer Leonard), Byron Kane (Man 2), Shimen Ruskin (Waiter), Jerry Hausner (Kennet / Baby cries), Lou Merrill (Book salesman), Lou Krugman (Janitor), Jeanette Nolan (Sheila Mannix [2<sup>nd</sup> Ellen] / Landlady), Jay Novello (Druggist)

COMMERCIAL: Bert Holland (Hap), Harlow Wilcox (Announcer), Sylvia Simms (Operator)

*A woman finds a letter which says a murder will take place, and she desperately seeks the woman to whom the letter was sent.*

NOTES: This was the first *SUSPENSE* show to give name credit to all supporting actors on a regular basis, continuing for every show thereafter. It had only taken nine years!

This script was also produced on 5-15-56

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**BACK SEAT DRIVER (2-22-51) #416**

Author: Sally Thorson

JIM & MARIAN JORDAN (Joe & Ellie Charles), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / Bill / Cop), Larry Thor (Newscaster), Jeanette Nolan (Miranda), Tony Barrett (Matrick), David Ellis (Mike)



*A married couple attend a movie and on the way home they realize a dangerous killer is in their car.*

NOTES: The circulating copy of this show is an AFRS recording

This script was also produced on 2-3-49 & 7-19-55

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**THE GIFT OF JUMBO BRANNIGAN (3-1-51, PRE-CUT 2-23) #417**

Authors: E. Jack Neuman & John Michael Hayes

WILLIAM BENDIX (Jumbo Brannigan), Tommy Bernard (The Kid), Jay Novello (Froggy Quinn), Ed Max (Ralph Petrucchi), Leo Cleary (Binnsey / Padre), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / Warden), Junius Matthews (Julius the bartender), Herb Butterfield (Mr. Bishop / Captain Cross), Charles Calvert (Night Watchman)

COMMERCIAL: Harlow Wilcox (Announcer), Sylvia Simms (Operator)

*A veteran safecracker gets out of jail intending to go straight, and finds his grown son is a dangerous criminal.*

---

**A VISION OF DEATH (3-8-51) #418**

Author: Jerry Hausner

Adaptation by Walter Brown Newman

RONALD COLMAN (Jud Stone), Cathy Lewis (Aurora Stone), Larry Dobkin (Harry Arnold), Florida Edwards (Phone operator), Joe Kearns (Narrator / Stanford the manager), Charles Calvert (Telegram man / Bartender)

COMMERCIAL: Ken Christy (Swami Sabu), Harlow Wilcox (Announcer), Sylvia Simms (Operator)

*A phony stage mentalist discovers his wife/stage assistant really can read minds.*

NOTE: This script was also produced on 6-1-53

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**STRANGE, FOR A KILLER (3-15-51, PRE-CUT 3-3) #419**

Author: Robert Esson

Adaptation by Antony Ellis

VAN JOHNSON (Henry Haydon), Joe Kearns (Charlie), Larry Thor (Police Captain Case), Jack Kruschen (Officer Roeder), Jack Moyles (Roy Djaleska), Dick Benedict (Buck), Michael Ann Barrett (Jessy Haydon)

*A man's family is being held hostage by a dangerous ex-con.*

NOTES: This script was also produced on 7-9-55 & 6-15-58

This show survives in unassembled form: just the dramatic portions but minus music cues, commercial announcements & open / close

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**THREE LETHAL WORDS (3-22-51, PRE-CUT 3-17) #420**

Author: Charles Behan

Adaptation by Walter Brown Newman

JOAN CRAWFORD (Sally, alias Jane Winters), Hy Averbach (Chris Summers), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / Philip Lewis / Chair), Ted de Corsia (Policeman / Doctor), Lillian Buyeff (Police Operator / Lisa), Don Diamond (Mocambo receptionist / Art Supply clerk), Bea Benaderet (Maid / Nurse), Sylvia Simms (Grace / Operator)

COMMERCIAL: Ed Max (Oscar Auto), Harlow Wilcox (Announcer), Sylvia Simms (Operator)

*A dangerously jealous woman wants to disfigure the movie producer who she thought loved her.*

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### **DEATH PITCH (3-29-51) #421**

Author: Walter Brown Newman

JACK CARSON (Nick Arnold), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / Peter Valenka), Frances Chaney (Nora), Georgia Ellis (Annette), Dick Crenna (Robbie), Ed Max (Duke Arnold), Herb Butterfield (Lee Duncan), Byron Kane (Voice / Police Chief), Eddie Marr (Circus "Talker")

COMMERCIAL: Jerry Hausner (Sam), Harlow Wilcox (Announcer), Sylvia Simms (Operator)

*A circus owner is smitten with a performer and eliminates all her male acquaintances.*

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### **MURDER IN G-FLAT (4-5-51, PRE-CUT: 3-19) #422**

Author: Richard-George Pedicini

JACK BENNY (Hercules Remington), Bea Benaderet (Martha), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / Herman), Jack Kruschen (Boiler), Larry Thor (Lieutenant), Paul Frees (Baldy), Clayton Post (Sergeant / Clerk)

COMMERCIAL: Bert Holland (Hap), Harlow Wilcox (Announcer), Sylvia Simms (Operator)

*A meek piano tuner picks up the wrong luggage after a subway ride, and the bag he now has contains \$25,000.*

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### **EARLY TO DEATH (4-12-51) #423**

Authors: E. Jack Neuman & John Michael Hayes

LUCILLE BALL (Evie) & DESI ARNAZ (Rico Sebastian), Jack Kruschen (Lieutenant Maher / Clerk), Anthony Barrett (Ben Tabor / Pasco), Tom Holland (Gonzales / Coroner), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / Investigator Grimms), Bert Holland (Air-traffic control / Judge)

COMMERCIAL: Bert Holland (Hap), Harlow Wilcox (Announcer), Sylvia Simms (Operator)

*A scheming, homicidal couple commit a robbery on a plane and escape by parachute, but are later blackmailed.*

NOTE: The circulating copy is from damaged discs, an upgrade is needed

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### **THE RESCUE (4-19-51, PRE-CUT 3-31) #424**

Author: Elizabeth Wilson

Adaptation by John Meston

JAMES STEWART (Lee), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / Jack / Clerk), Jack Kruschen (Lieutenant Rogers / Tailor), Peggy Webber (Nurse / Woman), Sidney Miller (Poet / Drunk), Sylvia Simms (Helen), Joyce McCluskey (Hilary), Lou Merrill (Doc. Radin), Ted Osborn (Dr. Brune)

COMMERCIAL: Ken Christy, Harlow Wilcox (Announcer), Sylvia Simms (Operator)

*A woman is threatening to jump off a ledge and insists the psychiatrist who is there is not who he says.*

NOTE: For over forty years, this show was from an incomplete home recording, with

the last ten minutes missing. In 2010, a complete AFRS version was found

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**THE THIRTEENTH SOUND (4-26-51)  
#425**

Authors: Cathy & Elliott Lewis

ANNE BAXTER (Sally Skinner), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / Brown), Howard McNear (Coroner / Man), Florence Bates (Mrs. Banker), Norman Field (Mr. Banker), Sarah Selby (Woman), Anthony Barrett (Guy), Jim Nusser (Gardener), John Stephenson (Husband)

COMMERCIAL: Jerry Hausner, Harlow Wilcox (Announcer), Sylvia Simms (Operator)

*A neurotic woman murders her husband and is then haunted by a horrific sound.*

NOTES: The working title was "Dying is Safer"

This script was originally produced on 2-13-47

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**WHEN THE BOUGH BREAKS (5-3-51) #426**

Author: Sheldon Leonard

Adaptation by Antony Ellis

ROSALIND RUSSELL (Evelyn Striker), Sheldon Leonard (Harry Stryker), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / Corcoran / Doctor), Barney Phillips (Kahn the Policeman), Jeffrey Silver (Delivery Boy)

COMMERCIAL: Bert Holland (Hap), Harlow Wilcox (Announcer), Sylvia Simms (Operator)

*A man marries a woman acquitted of murder, and he is suspected of being after her inheritance.*

NOTE: This script was also produced on 12-6-55

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**DEATH ON MY HANDS (5-10-51)  
#427**

Authors: E. Jack Neuman & John Michael Hayes

PHIL HARRIS (Dixie), ALICE FAYE (Julie), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / Abdow), Herbert Butterfield (Officer Edson), Barbara Whiting (Emily), Byron Kane (Doctor / Announcer), Franklin "Pinky" Parker (Voice), Gil Stratton, Jr. (Teddy)

COMMERCIAL: Ken Christy, Harlow Wilcox (Announcer), Sylvia Simms (Operator)

*A touring musician accidentally kills a female fan in his dressing room and a mob wants to lynch him.*

---

**ANOTHER MAN'S POISON (5-17-51, PARTIALLY PRE-CUT 4-20) #428**

Author: Arthur Ross

CHARLES BOYER (Claude Bourget), Irene Tedrow (Alice Bourget), Herb Butterfield (Lieutenant Gastlin), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / Tom Haskell), Paul Frees (Kranik / Joe), Truda Marson (Phone operator / Girl), Russell Simpson (Mailman)

COMMERCIAL: Harlow Wilcox (Announcer), Sylvia Simms (Operator)

*A man returns a package containing \$100,000 but he is arrested for theft and also for murder.*

NOTE: The circulating copy is from an L. A. area home aircheck taped off-air from KNX. All commercials are deleted



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**\* FRESH AIR, SUNSHINE AND MURDER (5-24-51) #429**

Author: Richard-George Pedicini

JEFF CHANDLER (Zack), Cathy Lewis (Joyce), Lou Merrill (Big Willy), Herb Vigran (Frankie), Clayton Post (Sergeant / Benny), Jack Kruschen (Oblo), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / Lieutenant / Henry)

COMMERCIAL: Bert Holland (Hap), Harlow Wilcox (Announcer), Sylvia Simms (Operator)

*One of the owners of a health studio flirts with the wife of a known mobster.*

NOTES: This script was also produced, as "Rub Down, and Out," on 7-6-58

This show is unavailable for review, no recording is known

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**OVERDRAWN (5-31-51) #430**

Author: Robert Platt

Adaptation by Blake Edwards

DICK POWELL (Robert Farley, alias Arthur Adams), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / Train announcer voice / Pop), Mary Jane Croft (Betsy Clark / Girl), Dick Crenna (Graves), Norman Field (McPherson / Man 1), Ed Max (First bank robber / San Francisco Police Sergeant), Benny Rubin (Second bank robber / Detective / Agent)

COMMERCIAL: Stanley Smart, Harlow Wilcox (Announcer), Sylvia Simms (Operator)

*A bank employee decides to pocket some of the money from a robbery.*

---

**TELL YOU WHY I SHOULDN'T DIE (6-7-51) #431**

Author: David Ellis

RICHARD WIDMARK (Nat Driscoll), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / Bjornson the Defence Lawyer), Hy Averbach (Charlie), Cathy Lewis (Barbara), Joy Terry (Eileen), Larry Thor (Police Lieutenant), Mary Shipp (Flora [Woman on phone])

COMMERCIAL: Bert Holland (Hap), Harlow Wilcox (Announcer), Sylvia Simms (Operator)

*A man who killed his ex-girlfriend threatens to shoot his old rival.*

---

**THE TRUTH ABOUT JERRY BAXTER (6-14-51) #432**

Authors: Forrest Barnes & Roxy Roth

Adaptation by Antony Ellis

GREGORY PECK (MacIntyre), William Tracy (Jerry Baxter), John Dehner (Sergeant Holly), Clayton Post (Banister), Joan Banks (Peggy / Announcer), Shep Menken (Officer 1), Hy Averbach (Officer 2), Joe Kearns (Signature Voice / Chairman / Harry)

COMMERCIAL: Bert Holland (Hap), Harlow Wilcox (Announcer), Sylvia Simms (Operator)

*A drug addict turned state's evidence and was given a second chance, but he is now using again.*

NOTE: The first Elliott Lewis production announced as "Based on actual events"

---

### **THE GREATEST THIEF IN THE WORLD (6-21-51) #433**

Author: Antony Ellis

JAMES MASON (Peter Marriott), Pamela Kellino (Ginny), Joe Kearns (Hyde / Signature Voice), Ben Wright (Man), Eileen Erskine (Joan), Raymond Lawrence (Detective / Waiter), Ted Osborn (Banbridge / Beggar)

COMMERCIAL: Bert Holland (Hap), Harlow Wilcox (Announcer), Sylvia Simms (Operator)

*Scotland Yard suspects a man of being the notorious jewel thief known as "The Squire."*

NOTE: This script was also produced on 7-26-55

---

### **THE CASE FOR DOCTOR SINGER (6-28-51) #434**

Author: Blake Edwards

Joseph Kearns (Dr. Singer / Doctor / Signature Voice), Larry Thor (Whiteside), Paul Frees (Mitchell / Announcer), Herb Butterfield (General Busher), Clayton Post (Voice / Charlie), Ken Christy (Evans), Howard McNear (Bromwell / Waiter), Ted Von Eltz (Professor Young), Larry Dobkin (Colonel Mishakoff / Collings), Edgar Barrier (Dentist / Elman), John Stephenson (Farnsworth), Truda Marson (Nurse)

COMMERCIAL: Bert Holland (Hap), Harlow Wilcox (Announcer), Sylvia Simms (Operator)

*U. S. officials on a top-secret nuclear project seek out a Russian spy who caused a man's death in Sweden.*

NOTES: The final show of the 1950-51 season (*SUSPENSE* takes a summer break). Elliott Lewis also commences a

new series of *PURSUIT* which runs from 7-10-51 to 3-25-52.

This was the final show with Joe Kearns as the Signature Voice of *Suspense*, although he will act in all but three shows next season.

For the next five years until 1-24-56 Larry Thor is the regular opening-closing voice on *SUSPENSE*.

Thor's delivery is essentially a straight announcer, without Kearns' undercurrent of foreboding. His role will be referred to as "Narrator" in all subsequent shows.

#### Credits from 1951-54:

Assistant director: Ken MacManus (unless noted)

Engineer: Stan Carr (unless noted)

Secretary to Elliott Lewis: Grace Curcio

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Schedule Change to Mondays, 8:00-8:30 pm ET

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### **REPORT ON THE JOLLY DEATH RIDERS (8-27-51) #435**

Author: Richard-George Pedicini

Sound: Ross Murray, Jack Dick

WILLIAM HOLDEN (Harbor), Jack Kruschen (Wally / Sergeant), Cathy Lewis (Gladys / Wanda), Joe Kearns (Warren), Eddie Firestone (Larch), Sam Edwards (Mickey), Edit Angold (Mama), Barbara Eiler (Julie), Larry Thor (Narrator)

COMMERCIAL: Bert Holland (Hap), Harlow Wilcox (Announcer), Sylvia Simms (Operator)

*A woman's death in a car accident leads police to a gang of teenagers.*

---

**THE STEEL RIVER PRISON BREAK  
(9-3-51) #436**

Author: William Norman [pseudonym for William N. Robson]

Sound: Ross Murray, Jack Dick

JEFF CHANDLER (Bragg), Charles Calvert (Boatman / Guard 2), Byron Kane (Red Cross / 2<sup>nd</sup> Con), Billy Halop (Moish), Tony Barrett (Runt), Bill Forman (Radio Voice / Guard 3), James Nusser (Con), Larry Thor (2<sup>nd</sup> Radio Voice / Narrator), Joe Kearns (Lefty / Guard)

COMMERCIAL: Robert Easton, Harlow Wilcox (Announcer), Sylvia Simms (Operator)

*Convicts escape from jail during a rising flood.*

NOTE: This script was also produced on 7-27-58

---

**THE EVIL OF ADELAIDE WINTERS  
(9-10-51) #437**

Author: Arthur Ross

Sound: Ross Murray, Jack Dick

AGNES MOOREHEAD (Adelaide), Herb Butterfield (Porter), Joe Kearns (McBain), Larry Thor (Narrator)

*A woman is a phony seer, taking advantage of grieving families.*

---

**NEILL CREAM, DOCTOR OF  
POISON (9-17-51) #438**

Author: Antony Ellis

Sound: Ross Murray, Jack Dick

CHARLES LAUGHTON (Neill Cream), Charles Davis (Doctor / Edward Bridgman), Betty Harford (Daisy), Joe Kearns (Inspector Worring), Jeanette Nolan (Mrs. Minns the landlady), Georgia Ellis (Mildred Vickers), Alma Lawton (Joyce Hamilton), Herb Butterfield (Sergeant Diltz), Larry Thor (Narrator)

COMMERCIAL: Bert Holland (Hap), Harlow Wilcox (Announcer), Sylvia Simms (Operator)

*A doctor who is a poison killer kills three women.*

NOTE: This script was also produced, as "A Story of Poison," on 9-13-55

---

**THE MCKAY COLLEGE  
BASKETBALL SCANDAL (9-24-51)  
#439**

Author: Millard Kaufman

Sound: Ross Murray, Jack Dick

TONY CURTIS (Fred Hudson), Martha Wentworth (Mrs. Hudson), Lou Merrill (Mr. Hudson), Joe Kearns (Dr. Kellog / 1<sup>st</sup> Voice), Barbara Eiler (Jean), Jack Moyles (Ace), Bill Forman (Sportscaster), Jack Kruschen (Stanley), Gil Stratton, Jr. (French), Leo Cleary (Coach / Barr), Larry Thor (Narrator)

COMMERCIAL: Bert Holland, Harlow Wilcox, Sylvia Simms

*A young college basketball player is offered a bribe to lose the big game.*

---

**THE CASE STUDY OF A  
MURDERER (10-1-51) #440**

Author: Arthur Ross

Assistant Director: Bill Nelson

Sound: Ray Kemper, Gene Twombly,  
Gus Bayz

JEANNE CRAIN (Beth), Bill Conrad  
(Hank), Howard McNear (Doctor  
Broughton), Larry Thor (Radio Voice /  
Narrator)

*An unstable husband is obsessed with  
news of a serial murderer and he wonders  
if the perpetrator is actually himself.*

NOTE: This script was also produced, as  
“Study of a Murderer,” on 1-20-55

---

**BETRAYAL IN VIENNA (10-8-51)  
#441**

Author: Silvia Richards, from research by  
Dana Lee Thomas

Assistant Director: Lucian Davis

Sound: Ross Murray, Gus Bayz

HERBERT MARSHALL (Repl), Joe  
Kearns (Oscar), Ben Wright (Major), Bill  
Johnstone (Prince Otto / Zehn), Herb  
Butterfield (Clerk / Judge), Charles Davis  
(Aide), John Stephenson (Hotel Clerk /  
Agent), Byron Kane (Agent 2), Larry Thor  
(Narrator)

*A corrupt spy in 19<sup>th</sup> century Vienna is  
being blackmailed over his secret drug  
problem.*

---

**THE FLAME (10-15-51) #442**

Author: Richard-George Pedicini

Assistant: Ham Keener

Sound: Ross Murray, Gus Bayz

CORNEL WILDE (Andy), Joe Kearns  
(Boyajan), Cathy Lewis (Mary Lee),  
Sidney Miller (Needles), Bert Holland  
(Ralph / Man), Harry Bartell (Shapiro /  
Man 2), Charles Calvert (Man 3), Larry  
Thor (Narrator)

COMMERCIAL: Ken Christy, Harlow  
Wilcox, Sylvia Simms

*An arsonist sees his next opportunity when  
a neighbor needs an insurance payout for  
his wife's medical bill.*

NOTE: This script was also produced on  
5-29-56

---

**THE LOG OF THE MARNE (10-22-51)  
#443**

Author: Lawrence Earl (“Yangtse  
Incident”)

Adaptation by Gil Doud

Sound: Ross Murray, Gus Bayz

RAY MILLAND (Harland), Ben Wright  
(Fraser), Joe Kearns (Moore), Charles  
Davis (Winster), Antony Ellis (Alden),  
Jack Kruschen (Kung / Lamb), Raymond  
Lawrence (Lillis), Bill Johnstone (Nisbett),  
Larry Thor (Narrator)

COMMERCIAL: Bert Holland, Harlow  
Wilcox, Sylvia Simms

*The true story of a British navy gunboat  
under attack from Chinese communists.*

---

**THE HUNTING OF BOB LEE (10-29-51) #444**

Author: Charles L. Sonnichsen

Adaptation by Gil Doud

Sound: Ross Murray, Gus Bayz

RICHARD WIDMARK (Bob Lee), Bill Conrad (Borden), Cathy Lewis (Corinne / Girl), Lou Krugman (Evans), Junius Matthews (Bier), Harry Bartell (Henry), Byron Kane (Dixon), Joe Kearns (Maddox), Terrea Lea (Vocalist), Larry Thor (Narrator)

COMMERCIAL: Dal McKennon, Harlow Wilcox, Sylvia Simms

*A Civil War drama of an accidental killing and a manhunt.*

---

**\* THE TRIALS OF THOMAS SHAW (11-5-51) #445**

Author: Antony Ellis

Sound: Gus Bayz, Ross Murray

JOSEPH COTTEN (Thomas Shaw), Tudor Owen (Shinn / Foreman), Joe Kearns (Inspector), Lou Krugman (Cottle / Clerk), Ramsay Hill (Judge File), Ben Wright (Beckett), Herb Butterfield (Shakeshaft), Irene Tedrow (Harriet), Byron Kane (Lyons), Paula Winslowe (Peg), Larry Thor (Narrator)

COMMERCIAL: Ken Christy, Harlow Wilcox, Sylvia Simms

*An innocent man is a murder suspect, but after being hounded by the town he finally turns to killing.*

NOTES: This script was also produced, as "Once a Murderer," on 11-15-55

This show is unavailable for review, no recording

---

**\*\* THE MISSION OF THE BETTA (11-12-51) #446**

Author: Christopher Anthony [pseudonym for William N. Robson]

Sound: Gus Bayz, Ross Murray

JOHN HODIAK (Ramsay), Edwin Max (Q. M.), Harry Bartell (Stewart), Jerry Hausner (Ace), Joe Kearns (Aussie / Exec), Jack Smight (Sailor), Charles Calvert (Spade), Clayton Post (Soundman / Deuce), Ben Wright (Captain), Larry Thor (Narrator)

COMMERCIAL: Bert Holland, Harlow Wilcox, Sylvia Simms

*Just before World War II an American sub helps transport a dozen Australians from the Japanese-occupied Solomon Islands.*

NOTE: This show is unavailable for review, no recording

---

**\*\* THE EMBEZZLER (11-19-51) #447**

Author: Kathleen Hite

Sound: Gus Bayz, Ross Murray

JOHN LUND (Daniel), Lou Merrill (Fred), Sylvia Simms (Simms), Stan Waxman (Manager), Mary Jane Croft (Lettie), Joe Kearns (Merrill), Larry Thor (Narrator)

COMMERCIAL: Bert Holland, Dal McKennon, Harlow Wilcox, Sylvia Simms

*A cunning con-man bookkeeper takes people for everything in a land scam.*

NOTE: This show is unavailable for review, no recording

---

**\* A MISFORTUNE IN PEARLS (11-26-51) #448**

Author: Antony Ellis

Sound: Ross Murray, Gus Bayz

FRANK LOVEJOY (Mark Hendricks), Joe Kearns (Sam Heiler), Larry Thor (Officer Collie / Narrator), Joan Banks (Jean Cummings), Charles Calvert (Postman / Man), Sidney Miller (Mr. Larkin)

COMMERCIAL: Bert Holland, Harlow Wilcox, Sylvia Simms

*An opportunistic thief can't fence some valuable stolen pearls, so he returns them to claim the reward.*

NOTES: This script was also produced, as "The End of the String," on 1-17-56

This show is unavailable for review, although it is known to exist on an AFRS recording

---

**A MURDEROUS REVISION (12-3-51) #449**

Author: S. Lee Pogostin

Adaptation by David Ellis

Assistant director: Lucian Davis

Sound: Ralph Cummings, Ross Murray

RICHARD WIDMARK (Chris), Cathy Lewis (Doris + Lois), Joe Kearns (Ken), Charlotte Lawrence (Harriett), Jerry Hausner (George + Hank), Larry Thor (Narrator)

COMMERCIAL: Bert Holland, Harlow Wilcox, Sylvia Simms

*A radio mystery writer takes revenge on his producer by taping a real murder for later play on air.*

NOTE: This show was announced on 11-26-51 as "The Twist is Death." Originally it was produced as "The Twist is Murder on 1-13-51, with Howard Duff in the lead, but after assembly, the show never aired.

The script was also produced on 7-28-57, as "Murder on Mike"

---

**BLACKJACK TO KILL (12-10-51) #450**

Authors: Morton Fine & David Friedkin

Sound: Ralph Cummings, Ross Murray

VICTOR MATURE (Johnny Damon), Herb Butterfield (Penny), Clayton Post (Boy / Radik), Harry Bartell (Mario), Jack Kruschen (Dante), Eddie Firestone (Cleo), Joe Kearns (Moyer), Steve Roberts (Bartender), Larry Thor (Narrator)

COMMERCIAL: Dal McKennon, Harlow Wilcox, Sylvia Simms

*A hit man is in Havana to kill an old friend, but the victim figures out the assassin's M.O.*

NOTE: The original title was "Assassin."

According to Darryl Shelton, Gene Kelly was originally to play the lead role.

---

**CASE HISTORY OF A GAMBLER (12-17-51) #451**

Author: Ross Murray

Sound: Ross Murray, Jack Dick, Gus Bayz

JOHN HODIAK (Matt Miller), Lillian Buyeff (Ellen), Bill Bouchey (Chris), Joe Kearns (Lou), Lou Merrill (Papa / Voice), Herb Vigran (Voice / Frank), Martha Wentworth (Mama / Nurse), Charles Calvert (Charlie), Clayton Post (Gus), Larry Thor (Narrator)

COMMERCIAL: Ken Christy, Harlow Wilcox, Sylvia Simms



*A man running an illegal gambling ring gets his comeuppance from various enemies.*

---

**\* 'TWAS THE NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS (12-24-51 [PRE-CUT: 12-21]) #452**

Authors: Morton Fine & David Friedkin

Sound: Ross Murray, Gus Bayz

GREER GARSON (Miss Buff), Ann Whitfield (Kathy), Charles Calvert (Santa), Howard McNear (Mr. Anderson / Voice), Herb Butterfield (Mr. Cleveland / Policeman), Irene Tedrow (Mrs. Cleveland), Johnny McGovern (Johnny), Sidney Miller (Reporter), Joe Kearns (Druggist), John Ramsay Hill (Paul), Harry Bartell (Mr. Harper), Mary Lansing (Mrs. Harper), Larry Thor (Narrator)

*A young girl is awaiting her parents arrival home from France via a doomed flight.*

NOTES: This show is unavailable for review, recording not known

This script was also produced on 12-21-53

---

**ROGUE MALE (12-31-51) #453**

Author: Geoffrey Household

Adaptation by Silvia Richards

Sound: Ross Murray, Clark Casey, Gus Bayz

HERBERT MARSHALL (Rogue), Ben Wright (Major), Larry Dobkin (Guard), Ramsay Hill (Officer) Harry Bartell (Fisherman), Tudor Owen (Vaner), Joe Kearns (Saul / Agent), Bill Johnstone (Black Hat / Farmer), Norma Varden (Postmistress), Earl Keen (Cat), Larry Thor (Narrator)

COMMERCIAL: Bert Holland, Harlow Wilcox, Sylvia Simms

*A British game hunter is hunted like an animal by Germans after he attempts to kill Adolf Hitler.*

---

**THE CASE AGAINST LOO DOCK (1-7-52) #454**

Author: Richard-George Pedicini

Sound: Ross Murray, Gus Bayz

JEFF CHANDLER (Dan), Herb Butterfield (Wilburn / Chinese 2), Byron Kane (Sonjac / Chinese), Joe Kearns (Muccia), Jack Kruschen (Kum Gee Ho), Bill Conrad (Loo Dock), Sam Edwards (Tommy), Lillian Buyeff (Ah Toy), Larry Thor (Narrator)

COMMERCIAL: Bert Holland, Harlow Wilcox, Sylvia Simms

*A reporter becomes friendly with a Tong leader who is still under suspicion by the police.*

---

**THE FALL RIVER TRAGEDY (1-14-52) #455**

Author: Gil Doud

Sound: Ross Murray, Gus Bayz

AGNES MOOREHEAD (Lizzie), Joseph Kearns (Moody), Peggy Webber (Bridget), Herb Butterfield (Bowen), Rolfe Sedan (Clerk), Will Wright (Harrington), Stuffy Singer (Child), Larry Thor (Narrator)

COMMERCIAL: Bert Holland, Harlow Wilcox, Sylvia Simms

*A Massachusetts trial to determine if axe-murderess Lizzie Borden really killed her parents.*

---

**THE PERFECTIONIST (1-21-52) #456**

Author: Arthur Ross

Sound: Ross Murray, Gus Bayz

RICHARD BASEHART (Brandon), Bill Conrad (Granik), Charlotte Lawrence (Betty), Joe Kearns (Clerk), Larry Thor (Narrator)

COMMERCIAL: Bert Holland, Harlow Wilcox, Sylvia Simms

*A cold blooded killer with his own high standards starts to slip up.*

NOTE: Clifton Webb was considered for the lead role.

---

**CARNIVAL (1-28-52) #457**

Authors: Morton Fine & David Friedkin

Sound: Ross Murray, Gus Bayz

JOSEPH COTTEN (Rene Orlando), Mary Jane Croft (Gabrielle), Joseph Kearns (O'Mara), Dick Ryan (Giant), Charles Calvert (Man), Sylvia Simms (Girl), Larry Thor (Narrator)

COMMERCIAL: Jim Hayward, Sylvia Simms, Harlow Wilcox (Announcer)

*A circus mechanical man is known to have killed a woman years ago, and he now sets his sights on his employer.*

NOTE: Charles Boyer was originally to star in this show

---

**THE TREASURE CHEST OF DON JOSE (2-4-52) #458**

Author: Christopher Anthony [pseudonym for William N. Robson]

Sound: Ross Murray, Gus Bayz

J. CARROL NAISH (Gaspar), Anthony Barrett (Steve / Pedro), Charles Seel (Coffin), Clayton Post (Jeff), Joseph Kearns (Tris), Larry Thor (Narrator)

COMMERCIAL: Bert Holland, Harlow Wilcox Sylvia Simms

*A man searches for a legendary pirate treasure, but there is a curse attached.*

NOTE: This script was also produced on 6-26-56 & 10-12-58

---

**ODD MAN OUT (2-11-52) #459**

Author: Frederick L. Green

Adaptation by Antony Ellis

Engineer: Pat Walsh

Sound: Ross Murray, Gus Bayz

JAMES MASON (Johnny), PAMELA KELLINO (Agnes), Ben Wright (Murphy), Dan O'Herlihy (Nolan), Bill Johnstone (Pat / Fencie), Joe Kearns (Man / Shell), Charles Davis (2<sup>nd</sup> Constable), Raymond Lawrence (1<sup>st</sup> Constable), Larry Thor (Narrator)

COMMERCIAL: Bert Holland, Harlow Wilcox, Sylvia Simms

*During a bank robbery a member of the IRA sustains a bullet wound and must avoid the police.*

NOTE: James Mason plays the same role as in the 1947 movie version.

This script was also produced on 12-30-54



---

**THE TRACK OF THE CAT (2-18-52)****#460**

Author: Walter Van Tilburg Clark

Adaptation by Silvia Richards

Sound: Ross Murray, Gus Bayz

RICHARD WIDMARK (Curt), Harry Bartell (Arthur), Lee Millar (Hal), Martha Wentworth (Ma), Sharon Douglas (Gwen), Parley Baer (Joe / Sam), Larry Thor (Narrator)

COMMERCIAL: Tyler McVey, Harlow Wilcox, Sylvia Simms

*Cattle are being killed by a mountain lion but Indian lore speaks of a panther that can't die.*

---

**A KILLING IN LAS VEGAS (2-25-52)****#461**

Author: Richard-George Pedicini

Sound: Ross Murray, Gus Bayz

LINDA DARNELL (Dixie), Lamont Johnson (Charlie), Joe Kearns (Hank / Man), Jerry Hausner (Sergeant), Charles Calvert (Barney), Eve McVeagh (Girl), James Nusser (Cole), Larry Thor (Narrator)

COMMERCIAL: Bert Holland, Harlow Wilcox, Sylvia Simms

*A showgirl in Las Vegas has almost been killed twice, then discovers that her own husband wants her dead.*

NOTE: Barbara Stanwyck was originally considered for the lead.

---

**THE THIRTY-NINE STEPS (3-3-52)****#462**

Author: John Buchan

Adaptation by Silvia Richards

Sound: Ross Murray, Gus Bayz

HERBERT MARSHALL (Richard Hannay), Tudor Owen (Constable), Joe Kearns (The Man / Fisherman), Ben Wright (Milkman / Bartender), Bill Johnstone (Old Codger), Charles Davis (Innkeeper), Byron Kane (Scudder / Newscaster), Raymond Lawrence (Guard), Larry Thor (Narrator)

COMMERCIAL: Bert Holland, Harlow Wilcox, Sylvia Simms

*In London, an engineer is accused of killing a spy, and he becomes involved in espionage.*

---

**A WATERY GRAVE (3-10-52) #463**

Author: Arthur Ross

Engineer: Pat Walsh

Sound: Ross Murray, Gus Bayz

JOSEPH COTTEN (Callan), Mary Jane Croft (Betty), Stan Waxman (McNeely), Joe Kearns (Bartell), Larry Thor (Narrator)

COMMERCIAL: Ken Christy, Harlow Wilcox, Sylvia Simms

*A corrupt lawyer gives the name of a silent witness in order for the defendant to get rid of him.*

NOTE: Ray Milland was originally considered for the lead role, according to Daryl Shelton.

---

**THE WRECK OF THE OLD '97  
(3-17-52) #464**

Authors: Christopher Anthony  
[pseudonym for William N. Robson] and  
Mindret Lord

Engineer: Pat Walsh

Sound: Ross Murray, Gus Bayz

FRANK LOVEJOY (Joe Brody), Herb  
Butterfield (Ben / Pete), Clayton Post  
(Clint), Eddie Firestone (Abel), Junius  
Matthews (Clovis), Jack Kruschen (Sam /  
Mike), Roy Glenn (Tom), Joe Kearns  
(Elkins), Harry Stanton (singer), Larry  
Thor (Narrator)

*When a train runs late for the first time the  
engineer begins to speed dangerously.  
Told in story-song approach.*

---

**A MURDER OF NECESSITY (3-24-  
52) #465**

Author: Richard-George Pedicini

Sound: Gus Bayz, Ross Murray

ROBERT YOUNG (Mark), Joe Kearns  
(Herbie / Tex), Jo Gilbert (Mrs. Collins /  
Operator), Howard McNear (Collins),  
Charlotte Lawrence (Janice), Lou Merrill  
(Laffoon), Paula Winslowe (Gretchen),  
Larry Thor (Narrator)

COMMERCIAL: Bert Holland, Harlow  
Wilcox, Sylvia Simms

*A man murders a disliked private eye who  
was a known blackmailer, but he realizes  
his phone was the off the hook at the time.*

NOTE: Working titles were "Backfire,"  
and "Frameup"

On 3-25-52, the final *PURSUIT* show  
produced and directed by Elliott Lewis  
aired

---

**THE LADY PAMELA (3-31-52) #466**

Author: Antony Ellis

Sound: Gus Bayz, Ross Murray

DEBORAH KERR (Pamela), Peter Leeds  
(Archer), Joe Kearns (Halliday), Ben  
Wright (Wiley), Larry Thor (Bolen /  
Narrator), Ted Osborn (Waiter / Tillet)

COMMERCIAL: Tyler McVey, Harlow  
Wilcox, Sylvia Simms

*A woman is double-crossed and jailed for  
robbery and upon release she seeks  
revenge.*

NOTE: Working titles were "The  
Colonel's Lady" and "The Lady Pam"

---

**REMEMBER ME? (4-7-52) #467**

Author: Gus C. Bayz

Sound: Ross Murray, Gus Bayz

DAN DURYEA (Harry), Charlotte  
Lawrence (Ruth), Joe Kearns (Liebowitz /  
Lieutenant), Ruth Perrott (Mrs. Dooley),  
Lee Millar (Jimmy), Charles Calvert  
(Cop), Larry Thor (Narrator)

COMMERCIAL: Bert Holland, Harlow  
Wilcox, Sylvia Simms

*A hood commits armed robbery then  
follows a witness, only to learn she used to  
have a crush on him.*

NOTE: This script was also produced on  
5-3-55 and 8-24-58

---

**MATE BRAM (4-14-52) #468**

Author: Gil Doud, from documents gathered by Edward Pierson

Sound: Gus Bayz, Ross Murray

RICHARD WIDMARK (Bram), Joe Kearns (Nash), Joan Banks (Laura), Ben Wright (Slice), Lou Merrill (Blomberg), Steve Roberts (Brown), Roy Glenn (Spencer), Robert North (Monks), Larry Thor (Narrator)

COMMERCIAL: Bert Holland, Harlow Wilcox, Sylvia Simms

*At sea, a ship's crew realize the first mate is an axe-murderer, and the captain and others are dead.*

---

**THE DIARY OF CAPTAIN SCOTT (4-21-52) #469**

Author: Gil Doud

Sound: Gus Bayz, Gene Twombly

HERBERT MARSHALL (Captain Robert Scott), June Whitley (Kate), Tudor Owen (Bowers), Ben Wright (Oates), Joe Kearns (Official Voice / Evans), Charles Davis (Wilson), Eloise (soloist), Larry Thor (Narrator)

COMMERCIAL: Bert Holland, Harlow Wilcox, Sylvia Simms

*A dramatization, via diary notes, of the famous explorer known as Scott of the Antarctic.*

NOTE: This script was also produced on 2-28-56

---

**THE SHOOTING OF BILLY THE KID (4-28-52) #470**

Author: Silvia Richards

Sound: Gus Bayz & Gene Twombly

FRANK LOVEJOY (Billy Bonney), Bill Conrad (Pat Garrett), Parley Baer (Jack / Boyle), Jack Kruschen (Joe / Pete), Joe Kearns (Charlie), Russell Simpson (Wallace), Tony Barrett (Bob / Jose), Lillian Buyeff (Girl), Earl Lee (Poe / McSween), Charles Calvert (Man), Larry Thor (Narrator)

COMMERCIAL: Bert Holland, Harlow Wilcox, Sylvia Simms

*A dramatization of the famous outlaw who killed sixteen men.*

NOTES: Two nights previously, CBS debuted *GUNSMOKE*, and its first story was "Billy the Kid."

Originally Donald O'Connor was to be the lead in this show

After years of a low-fi aircheck in circulation, a clean AFRS recording of this show was found in 2018

---

**FRANKIE AND JOHNNY (5-5-52) #471**

Authors: Morton Fine & David Friedkin

Sound: Gus Bayz, Gene Twombly

DINAH SHORE (Frankie), Lamont Johnson (Johnny), Alvina Temple (Nellie / Girl), Martha Wentworth (Willie), Sidney Miller (Tissot), Joe Kearns (Bartender / Cop), Roy Glenn (Jellycake), Harry Bartell (Cabbie), Jack Kruschen (Man), Larry Thor (Narrator)

*A drama of the famous folk song about Frankie, a vengeful, spurned woman and her no-good beau Johnny.*

NOTE: This script was also produced on 2-3-57

---

**THE MISSING PERSON (5-12-52) #472**

Author: Richard-George Pedicini

Sound: Gus Bayz, Ross Murray

MACDONALD CAREY (Phil), Jim Nusser (Looby), Paula Winslowe (Martha / Landlady), Herb Vigran (Nicky), Jay Novello (Maestro), Joe Kearns (Derwin / Eric), Irene Tedrow (Hildy), Larry Thor (Narrator)

COMMERCIAL: Bert Holland, Harlow Wilcox, Sylvia Simms

*A famous violinist-composer disappears and a reporter begins the search for answers.*

---

**THE FLIGHT OF THE BUMBLE BEE (5-19-52) #473**

Author: Ross Murray

Sound: Ross Murray, Gus Bayz

FRED MACMURRAY (Hutch), Glenn Vernon (Curley), Edgar Barrier (Willy), Byron Kane (Marty), Billy Halop (Max), Charles Calvert (Murph), Jack Kruschen (Al / Voice), Lee Millar (Sarg), Joe Kearns (Frank), Larry Thor (Narrator)

COMMERCIAL: Gil Stratton, Jr., Harlow Wilcox, Sylvia Simms

*In the Korean War a plane is attacked by the enemy, and the crew must begin stripping the aircraft down to make it to a safe landing.*

---

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**THE DEATH OF ME (5-26-52) #474**

Author: Richard Chandlee

Sound: Ross Murray, Gus Bayz

GEORGE MURPHY (Harry Sawyer), Bill Conrad (Sam), Joe Kearns (Ludy / Coroner), Charlotte Lawrence (Sal), Irene Tedrow (Girl / Myra), Herb Butterfield (Floyd), Larry Thor (Narrator)

COMMERCIAL: Ken Christy, Harlow Wilcox, Sylvia Simms

*A lumberyard worker suspects his foreman and faithless wife are plotting his death.*

---

**A GOOD AND FAITHFUL SERVANT (6-2-52, PRE-CUT: 5-20) #475**

Author: Richard M. Powell

Assistant director: Frank Paris

Engineer: George Foster

Sound: Ross Murray, Gus Bayz

JACK BENNY (Harold Fenton), Norma Varden (Mrs. Fenton), Doris Singleton (Helen), Joe Kearns (Waterman), Gerald Mohr (Cartwright), Hy Averbach (Lt. Miller), Charles Calvert (Reporter / Wolfe), Larry Thor (Narrator)

COMMERCIAL: Ken Christy, Harlow Wilcox, Sylvia Simms

*A quiet bank employee suddenly becomes respected after thieves commit a robbery and lock him in the safe.*

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**CONCERTO FOR KILLER AND  
EYEWITNESSES (6-9-52, PRE-CUT:  
6-6) #476**

Authors: E. Jack Neuman and Arthur Ross

Sound: Ross Murray, Gus Bayz

Elliott Lewis (Edward Sitko), Bill Conrad (Jessie Crandall / Usher), Byron Kane (Cop), Jay Novello (Delaney / Milton), Martha Wentworth (Momma), Junius Matthews (George), Sidney Miller (Kenny), Charlotte Lawrence (Kitty), Gil Stratton, Jr. (Bellhop), Jack Kruschen (Porter / Reader), Larry Thor (Narrator)

COMMERCIAL: Bert Holland, Harlow Wilcox, Sylvia Simms

*A captured killer gets away from the police and goes after the man really responsible.*

NOTE: This was the script Elliott Lewis intended to produce in 1950 with John Garfield, who had been hounded by HUAC. Here Lewis plays the lead himself (a tribute perhaps? Garfield had died the previous month at 39 years, a victim of witch-hunt pressure which exacerbated a congenital heart condition)

Originally "Sorry, Wrong Number" was announced, but that script was held to open the next season.

Final show of the 1951-52 season. *SUSPENSE* takes a summer break. In the next season, regular actor Joe Kearns appears in all but two shows

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**\* SORRY, WRONG NUMBER  
(9-15-52, PRE-CUT: 9-5) #477**

Author: Lucille Fletcher

Guest director: William Spier

Sound: Berne Surrey, Ross Murray

AGNES MOOREHEAD (Mrs. Stevenson), Cathy Lewis (Operator), Harry Lang (Man's Voice), Hans Conried (George), Margaret Brayton (Chief Operator / Information), Joe Kearns (Western Union / Sergeant Martin), Paula Winslowe (Henchley Hospital Woman), Larry Thor (Narrator)

*A woman gets a crossed phone line and overhears two men planning a murder.*

NOTES: Publicity for this sixth repeat performance notes that Bill Spier was guest director, and for this tenth anniversary he gathered "the original cast" from May 25, 1943 (although that was not totally accurate).

The script was also produced on 8-21-43, 2-24-44, 9-6-45, 11-18-48. It would be produced once more on 10-20-57, and a tape of that show was rebroadcast on 2-14-60

This version is unavailable for review, no recording is known

At the end of the show, CBS President Frank Stanton appeared

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**JACK KETCH (9-22-52, PRE-CUT: 9-8) #478**

Author: Antony Ellis

Sound: Berne Surrey, Ross Murray

CHARLES LAUGHTON (John Price, aka Jack Ketch), Joe Kearns (Hartley), Joan Banks (Elizabeth), Doris Lloyd (Betty), Ben Wright (Lovelace), Raymond Lawrence (Jailkeeper / Harry), Ramsay Hill (Barkeeper), Larry Thor (Narrator)

*A dramatization of the infamous 17th century English public hangman.*

NOTE: This script was also produced, as "The Groom of the Ladder," on 3-13-56

---

**VIDOCQ'S FINAL CASE (9-29-52, PRE-CUT: 8-26 & 8-27) #479**

Author: Francois Vidocq

Adaptation by Silvia Richards

Sound: Ross Murray, Berne Surrey

CHARLES BOYER (Francois Vidocq), Joe Kearns (Lebac / Marquis), Ben Wright (Williams / Man), William Johnstone (Doubigny), Paula Winslowe (Woman / Patronne), Parley Baer (Gendarme / Guard), Victor Rodman (General), Larry Thor (Narrator)

COMMERCIAL: Bert Holland, Harlow Wilcox, Sylvia Simms

*A master detective goes undercover to solve a raft of jewel robberies.*

---

**THE DIARY OF DR. PRITCHARD (10-6-52, PRE-CUT: 9-11-52) #480**

Author: Antony Ellis

Sound: Berne Surrey, Ralph Cummings

SIR CEDRIC HARDWICKE (Dr. Pritchard), Joe Kearns (Officer / Druggist), Paula Winslowe (Mary), Alma Lawton (Ellen), Georgia Ellis (Lily), Norman Varden (Mrs. Taylor), Bill Johnstone (Manager / Inspector), Ben Wright (Gardner), Larry Thor (Narrator)

COMMERCIAL: Bert Holland, Harlow Wilcox, Sylvia Simms

*A British doctor tries to poison his wife but his mother-in-law is in the way.*

---

**HOW LONG IS THE NIGHT? (10-13-52, PRE-CUT: 9-4-52) #481**

Author: Warner Taub, Jr.

Adaptation by James Moser

Sound: Ralph Cummings, Ray Kemper

RICHARD WIDMARK (Warner), Jack Kruschen (Bert), Joe Kearns (Joe), Herb Butterfield (Paul / Sam), Larry Thor (Narrator)

COMMERCIAL: Dal McKennon, Harlow Wilcox, Sylvia Simms

*A scientist-photographer is on assignment on a radioactive island and is haunted by a wailing sound.*

---

**THE DEATH OF BARBARA ALLEN  
(10-20-52) #482**

Authors: Morton Fine & David Friedkin

Sound: Gus Bayz, Ross Murray

ANNE BAXTER (Barbara Allen), Bill Conrad (Shawn), Joe Kearns (Barbara's father), Jeanette Nolan (Old Woman), Harry Bartell (Will), Louise Lewis (Maurya / Voice), Junius Matthews (Eamon / Voice 2), Ernest Newton (singer), Larry Thor (Narrator)

COMMERCIAL: Ken Christy, Harlow Wilcox, Sylvia Simms

*A drama in music and word based on the English folk song about love, betrayal and murder.*

---

**ALLAN IN WONDERLAND (10-27-52)  
#483**

Author: Kurt Singer

Adaptation by Richard Chandlee

Sound: Gus Bayz, Ross Murray

CORNEL WILDE (Alan), Joe Kearns (Man / Blind Man), Truda Marson (Girl / Nurse), Larry Thor (Lieutenant / Narrator), Charles Calvert (Officer Healey), Clayton Post (Nicholas / Foreman), Edgar Barrier (Boss), Jack Kruschen (Carlo)

*A lawyer gets entangled with espionage and finds himself in the role of an assassin.*

---

**FRANKENSTEIN (11-3-52, PRE-CUT:  
10-22) #484**

Author: Mary W. Shelley

Adaptation by Antony Ellis

Assistant director: Lucian Davis

Sound: Ralph Cummings, Gus Bayz

HERBERT MARSHALL (Victor Frankenstein), Joe Kearns (Gibson), Paula Winslowe (Elizabeth / Mrs. Gibson), Paul Frees (The Monster), Larry Thor (Narrator)

COMMERCIAL: Dal McKennon, Ken Christy, Harlow Wilcox

*The classic horror tale of a doctor who wishes to learn the secret of creation.*

NOTE: This script was also produced on 6-7-55

---

**THE FRIGHTENED CITY (11-10-52)  
#485**

Authors: Morton Fine & David Friedkin

Sound: Ross Murray, Gus Bayz

FRANK LOVEJOY (Nick), Joan Banks (Jane), Lou Merrill (Donley), Herb Butterfield (Osborne), Paula Winslowe (Mrs. Osborne / Operator), Hy Averbach (Tom), Charles Calvert (Nolan), Larry Thor (Narrator)

COMMERCIAL: Harlow Wilcox (Announcer), Bert Holland, Sylvia Simms

*A veteran returns from Korea and learns that his brother-in-law was shot dead but no-one is willing to talk.*

NOTE: This script was also produced on 9-27-55



---

**DEATH AND MISS TURNER (11-17-52, PRE-CUT 10-21) #486**

Author: William Spier

Assistant director: Lucian Davis

Engineer: Pat Walsh

Sound: Ralph Cummings, Gene Twombly

AGNES MOOREHEAD (Rachel Turner), Joe Kearns (Mr. Putney), Paul Frees (The Man), Jeanette Nolan (Miss Briggs), Charles Davis (Grice), Larry Thor (Narrator)

*An amnesiac woman is encouraged to pursue her love of painting to unlock her memory.*

NOTE: This script was also produced on 5-19-57

---

**MANN ALIVE (11-24-52) #487**

Author: William Spier (adapted from *The Adventures of Sam Spade* script "The 25/1235679 Caper" which aired on 12-15-50)

Sound: Ross Murray, Gus Bayz

PAUL DOUGLAS (Mann), Bill Conrad (Connolly), Jeanette Nolan (Mama), Jay Novello (Tony / Uniform), Fred MacKaye (Dr. Ames), Joe Kearns (Melton), Larry Thor (Narrator)

COMMERCIAL: Bert Holland, Harlow Wilcox, Sylvia Simms

*A reporter on a San Francisco Bay ferry becomes entangled with Russian and Chinese spies.*

NOTE: On this same date, Elliott Lewis produced an audition record for a proposed radio series called *CATHY AND ELLIOTT LEWIS ON STAGE* (the story was "A Corner of Autumn")

---

**THE BIG HEIST (12-1-52) #488**

Author: E. Jack Neuman

Sound: Ross Murray, Gus Bayz

JOHN HODIAK (Jim Scott), Joe Kearns (Martin Collins), Herb Butterfield (John Barry), Charles Calvert (Cop 1), Junius Matthews (Man / Guard), Ted Bliss (Cop 2), Bert Holland (Barney), Jerry Hausner (Carl), Larry Thor (Narrator)

*A pool shark is enlisted to help in a daring bank robbery.*

NOTE: On 12-3-52, Elliott Lewis produced an audition record for a proposed radio series called *CRIME CLASSICS* (the story was "Bathsheba Spooner")

---

**JOKER WILD (12-8-52) #489**

Authors: Morton Fine & David Friedkin

Sound: Ross Murray, Gus Bayz

Cathy Lewis (Liz), Elliott Lewis (Harry), Joe Kearns (Freddy), Lillian Buyeff (Rosalie), Jeane Wood (Woman / Operator), Hy Averbach (Johnny), Larry Thor (Thor / Narrator), Byron Kane (Voice), Charlotte Lawrence (Babs)

COMMERCIAL: Ken Christy, Harlow Wilcox, Sylvia Simms

*A comedian is driven to murder but his confession produces nothing but laughter.*



---

**THE MAN WITH TWO FACES (12-15-52) #490**

Author: James Moser

Sound: Ross Murray, Gus Bayz

LLOYD NOLAN (Gus), Joe Kearns (Doc / Wagner), Jeanette Nolan (Mrs. Henderson), Martha Wentworth (Emma), Tom Tully (Sam), Rolfe Sedan (Tailor), Lou Merrill (Captain), Eddy Fields (Higgins), Larry Thor (Narrator)

COMMERCIAL: Gil Stratton, Jr., Harlow Wilcox, Sylvia Simms

*A detective must unravel the odd case of a corpse which has been deliberately disguised.*

---

**ARCTIC RESCUE (12-22-52) #491**

Author: Gus C. Bayz

Sound: Ross Murray, Gus Bayz

JOSEPH COTTEN (Stewart), Joe Kearns (Captain), Norma Varden (Franklin), Lillian Buyeff (Cracroft / Nurse), Fred MacKaye (Starkey), Barney Phillips (Man), Clayton Post (Hansen), Ben Wright (Holliday), Larry Thor (Narrator)

COMMERCIAL: Bert Holland, Harlow Wilcox

*A British ship in 1852 searches for survivors of a previous Arctic mission, all of whom disappeared.*

NOTE: This script was also produced on 1-31-56

---

**MELODY IN DREAMS (12-29-52, PRECUT: 12-22) #492**

Author: Richard-George Pedicini

Sound: Berne Surrey, Bill James + Gus Bayz (12-29)

JOHN LUND (Royles), Howard McNear (Crab / Tapaz), Joe Kearns (Shank), Junius Matthews (Graf), Ann Whitfield (Joan), Shep Menken (Uncle Fred), Sam Edwards (Nickey Malone), Larry Thor (Narrator)

COMMERCIAL: Bert Holland, Harlow Wilcox, Sylvia Simms

*A high school drug problem has become serious enough that a father turns his daughter in for possession.*

NOTE: This week producer-director Elliott Lewis begins a new radio series *ON STAGE*, which runs from 1-1-53 to 9-28-54

---

**THE MYSTERY OF EDWIN DROOD, PART 1 (1-5-53) #493**

Author: Charles Dickens

Adaptation by Sidney Marshall

Sound: Ross Murray, Gus Bayz

HERBERT MARSHALL (John Jasper), Terry Kilburn (Edwin Drood), Betty Harford (Rosa), Ben Wright (Neville Landless), Joe Kearns (Dean Crisparkle), Bill Johnstone (Durdles), Larry Thor (Narrator)

COMMERCIAL: Ken Christy, Harlow Wilcox, Sylvia Simms

*A choir teacher meets his long-absent and now engaged nephew, but the young man is soon murdered.*

---

**THE MYSTERY OF EDWIN DROOD,  
PART 2 (1-12-53) #494**

HERBERT MARSHALL (John Jasper),  
Ben Wright (Neville Landless), Betty  
Harford (Rosa), Joe Kearns (Dean  
Crisparkle), Ramsay Hill (Mr. Datchery),  
Charles Davis (Joe), Bill Johnstone (Mr.  
Sapsea / Durdles), Larry Thor (Narrator)

COMMERCIAL: Ken Christy, Harlow  
Wilcox, Sylvia Simms

*In Part Two, the teacher attempts to hide  
his nephew's body and the police feel they  
have a suspect.*

NOTE: Originally this was a two-part  
*SUSPENSE* TV presentation (3-18 & 3-25-  
52)

---

**GOLD OF THE ADOMAR (1-19-53)  
#495**

Author: Ross Murray

Sound: Ross Murray, Gus Bayz

JOHN HODIAK (Nick), JOSEPH  
KEARNS (Carl), Clayton Post (Fred),  
Charles Calvert (Gordon), Larry Thor  
(Narrator)

*A diver makes a deal to find hidden gold  
worth millions on a vessel that sank forty  
two years earlier.*

---

**THE SPENCER BROTHERS (1-26-  
53) #496**

Author: Gil Doud

Assistant director: Bob Hendricks

Sound: Bill James, Gus Bayz, Vic Lavotti

RICHARD WIDMARK (Jim Spencer),  
Parley Baer (Whitney), Joe Kearns (John  
Spencer), Bill Conrad (Man / Rifleman),  
John Dehner (Simpson / 1<sup>st</sup> Rider), Sam  
Edwards (Carl Spencer), Sammie Hill  
(Girl), Larry Thor (Narrator)

COMMERCIAL: Bert Holland, Harlow  
Wilcox, Sylvia Simms

*Three brothers are ex-Civil War soldiers,  
and they turn to a life of crime.*

---

**PLAN X (2-2-53, PRE-CUT: 1-13) #497**

Author: Richard M. Powell

Assistant: Bob Shue

Sound: Gus Bayz + Bill James (1-15)

Engineer: Stan Carr

JACK BENNY (Xeno), Bill Conrad  
(Spokesman), Joe Kearns (Announcer /  
Fielding), Stuffy Singer (Ormi), Truda  
Marson (Receptionist), Norma Varden  
(Mother), John McIntire (Commander),  
Howard McNear (1st Martian / Parker),  
Mary Jane Croft (Connie), Jack Kruschen  
(2<sup>nd</sup> Martian), Larry Thor (Narrator)

COMMERCIAL: Bert Holland, Harlow  
Wilcox, Sylvia Simms

*Jack Benny plays a lone Martian in this  
light-hearted sci-fi tale of inter-stellar  
colonization.*

---

**THE MAN WHO CRIED WOLF (2-9-53) #498**

Authors: Morton Fine & David Friedkin,  
from research by Larry Thor

Sound: Gus Bayz, Ross Murray

WILLIAM POWELL (Milos Meros), Joe Kearns (Zapatin / Voice 2), Lillian Buyeff (Lilya), Jack Kruschen (Cardozas), Steve Roberts (Senor / Voice 1), Byron Kane (Pepe), John Dehner (The Editor), Larry Thor (Narrator)

*A Russian diplomat is to be deported and he begins taking secret documents.*

NOTE: Jeff Chandler was originally considered for the lead.

---

**THE LOVE AND DEATH OF JOAQUIN MURIETA (2-16-53, PRE-CUT: 2-10) #499**

Author: Gil Doud

Guitarist: Jose Baroso

Assistant director: Frank Paris

Engineer: George Foster

Sound: Bill James, Gus Bayz

VICTOR MATURE (Joaquin), Bill Conrad (Stranger / Closing narration), Virginia Gregg (Carmen), Harry Bartell (Luis), Joe Kearns (O'Brien / Pedro), Parley Baer (Juan), Hy Averbach (Joe), Jack Kruschen (Manuel / Sam), Larry Thor (Narrator)

COMMERCIAL: Ken Christy (Senator), Harlow Wilcox, Sylvia Simms

*A dramatization on the life of the famed Old West bandido Murieta.*

NOTE: Full cast **and roles played** were given in the closing credits

---

**THE SAINT JAMES INFIRMARY BLUES (2-23-53) #500**

Authors: Morton Fine & David Friedkin

Sound: Gus Bayz, Ross Murray

ROSEMARY CLOONEY (Sheila), Bill Conrad (Brock), Anthony Barrett (Nickey), Billy Halop (Cleo), Joe Kearns (Interne / Freddy), Clayton Post (Charlie), Vivi Janiss (Girl), Shep Menken (Officer / Voice), Larry Thor (Narrator)

COMMERCIAL: Bert Holland, Harlow Wilcox, Sylvia Simms

*In the Roaring Twenties a scheming singer sets her sights on a bootlegger.*

---

**THE STORM (3-2-53, PRE-CUT: 2-24) #501**

Author: Richard Chandlee

Assistant director: Bob Hendricks

Engineer: George Foster

Sound: Bill James, Gus Bayz

FRANK LOVEJOY (Larry Weston), JOAN BANKS (Joyce), Larry Thor (Narrator), Sharon Douglas (Operator / Betty), Joe Kearns (Al / Fireman), Rolfe Sedan (Pidet), Jerry Hausner (Man), James Nusser (Cop), Larry Thor (Narrator)

COMMERCIAL: Bert Holland, Harlow Wilcox, Sylvia Simms

*A performing couple are caught up in a Gulf Coast hurricane and he feels that the show must go on.*

---

**THE DEAD ALIVE (3-9-53) #502**

Author: Wilkie Collins

Adaptation by Sam Rolfe

Assistant director: Frank Paris

Sound: Gus Bayz, Tom Hanley

HERBERT MARSHALL (Philip), Mary Jane Croft (Naomi), Lamont Johnson (Silas), Jeanette Nolan (Lettie), Joe Kearns (John), Larry Thor (Narrator)

COMMERCIAL: Jerry Hausner, Harlow Wilcox, Sylvia Simms

*An English barrister visits relatives but after a fight, one of them disappears.*

---

**THE MOUNTAIN (3-16-53) #503**

Author: Antony Ellis

Assistant director: Frank Paris

Sound: Gus Bayz, Ross Murray

JOHN HODIAK (Foster), Paul Frees (Perucci), Ben Wright (Eldridge), Joe Kearns (Thomas), John Fraser (Feldman), James McCallion (Gaines), Larry Thor (Narrator)

COMMERCIAL: Dick Ryan, Harlow Wilcox, Sylvia Simms

*Three mountain climbers face an arduous vertical trek which turns to tragedy when one dies, possibly murdered.*

NOTE: This script was also produced on 11-1-55

---

**THE SIGNALMAN (3-23-53, PRE-CUT: 3-22) #504**

Author: Charles Dickens

Adaptation by Irving Reis

Engineer: Harry Essman

Sound: Bill James, Ray Kemper

AGNES MOOREHEAD (Amy Sears), Joseph Kearns (The Signalman), Larry Thor (Narrator)

*A ghost story set in a lonely English railway station.*

NOTE: This script was also produced on 11-4-56 and 2-15-59

---

**TOM DOOLEY (3-30-53) #505**

Authors: Morton Fine & David Friedkin

Assistant director: Frank Paris

Sound: Gus Bayz, Ross Murray

JOSEPH COTTEN (Tom Dooley), Sammie Hill (Laura Foster), Bill Conrad (Cousin Noah), Joseph Kearns (Jess / Jailer), Bill Bissell (Paul Cabot / Aaron the Yankee), Larry Thor (Doctor / Narrator), Harry Stanton (Singer)

*A dramatization in music and words of the famous folk song about a post-Civil War crime of passion and dangerous romantic rivalry.*

NOTE: This script was also produced on 12-7-58

---

## **AROUND THE WORLD (4-6-53) #506**

Authors: Morton Fine & David Friedkin

VAN JOHNSON (George), Alan Hewitt (Sig. voice / Colby), Ted Osborn (French team), Larry Haines (Monty), Steve Roberts (German rep / Czar rep), Danny Ocko (Italian rep / Tatar Chief), Cameron Andrews (Race Starter / Man on Snowshoes)

COMMERCIAL: Harlow Wilcox (Announcer)

*Based on the famous international car rally of 1908, a tale of the round-the-world race.*

NOTES: This show originated in New York, from the ballroom of the Waldorf Astoria Hotel, where the Easter Parade Auto Show was being held (Autolite was a participant)

Thanks to Karl Schadow for helping with this New York cast list

Elliott Lewis remained in Manhattan another week for sponsor meetings, so the following Hollywood show was directed in his absence by Norm Macdonnell

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## **THE GREAT TRAIN ROBBERY (4-13-53, WITH DRAMATIC PORTION PRE-CUT: 4-2) #507**

Producer/ Director: Norman Macdonnell

Author: Richard-George Pedicini

Sound: Gene Twombly, Ross Murray

Engineers: George Foster (drama, 4-2), Stan Carr (4-13)

FRED MACMURRAY (Walter), Paula Winslowe (Bess), Joseph Kearns (Eugene), Hy Averbach (Conductor / Red), Jerry Hausner (Baggage Man / Cop), Larry Thor (Narrator)

COMMERCIAL: Bert Holland, Harlow Wilcox, Sylvia Simms

*A man who is after money is involved in a scheme to rob a train carrying casino loot.*

---

## **PUBLIC DEFENDER (4-20-53) #508**

Author: E. Jack Neuman

Sound: Gus Bayz, Ross Murray

FRANK LOVEJOY (Phil), Joe Kearns (Tyler), Charles Calvert (Jailer), Paula Winslowe (Woman / Mrs. Weaver), Larry Thor (Quinn / Narrator), Lou Krugman (Lacy / Kaloman), Whitfield Connor (Hale), Herb Butterfield (Magistrate)

COMMERCIAL: Bert Holland, Harlow Wilcox, Sylvia Simms

*A killer is to be defended by the husband of the woman he murdered.*

NOTE: Robert Ryan was originally announced to play the lead.

---

## **THE MAN WITHIN (4-27-53) #509**

Author: Graham Greene

Adaptation by Morton Fine & David Friedkin

Sound: Gus Bayz, Ross Murray

HERBERT MARSHALL (Andrews), Joe Kearns (Henry), Betty Harford (Elizabeth), Ben Wright (Carlyon), Raymond Lawrence (Priest / Voice), Richard Peel (Judge), Bill Bissell (Harry), Larry Thor (Narrator)

COMMERCIAL: Bert Holland, Harlow Wilcox, Sylvia Simms

*A witness to a crime takes it on the lam when he knows he is to be rubbed out.*

---

**OTHELLO, PART 1 (5-4-53, PRE-CUT: 5-3) #510**

Author: William Shakespeare

Abridged and adapted by Elliott Lewis & Antony Ellis

Sound: Gene Twombly, Bill James, Ray Kemper

RICHARD WIDMARK (Iago), Cathy Lewis (Desdemona), Elliott Lewis (Othello), Bill Conrad (Montano), Joe Kearns (Cassio), Whitfield Connor (Roderigo), Byron Kane (Senator / Herald), Bill Johnstone (Duke), Herb Butterfield (Brabantio), Larry Thor (Voice / Narrator)

COMMERCIAL: Ken Christy, Harlow Wilcox, Sylvia Simms

*Shakespeare's play is dramatized in an experimental two-parter. The saga of Othello, the moor of Venice, and the jealousy of Iago over the lady Desdemona.*

---

**OTHELLO, PART 2 (5-11-53, PRE-CUT: 5-3) #511**

RICHARD WIDMARK (Iago), Cathy Lewis (Desdemona), Elliott Lewis (Othello), Bill Conrad (Montano), Joe Kearns (Cassio), Irene Tedrow (Emelia), Larry Thor (Narrator)

COMMERCIAL: Bert Holland, Harlow Wilcox, Sylvia Simms

---

**VIAL OF DEATH (5-18-53) #512**

Author: Gus Bayz

Sound: Bill James, Tom Hanley

LLOYD NOLAN (Holloway), Joe Kearns (Froelick), Jerry Hausner (Sam / Baby), James McCallion (Ruby), Truda Marson (Nurse), Martha Wentworth (Landlady), Charlotte Lawrence (Elvie), Joseph Granby (Pop), Clayton Post (Al / Kraus), Naomi Stevens (Woman), Jeffrey Silver (Boy), Larry Thor (Narrator)

COMMERCIAL: Tyler McVey, Harlow Wilcox, Sylvia Simms

*A scientist's car is stolen and a vial of bacteria was in the vehicle. A cholera epidemic is the feared result.*

---

**PIGEON IN THE CAGE (5-25-53, PRE-CUT: 5-13) #513**

Authors: Morton Fine & David Friedkin

Sound: Bill James, Gus Bayz

DICK HAYMES (Gerald Brewer), Joe Kearns (Harry Rogers), Charlotte Lawrence (Janice), Larry Thor (Narrator)

COMMERCIAL: Bert Holland, Harlow Wilcox, Sylvia Simms

*A workman is witness to a murder, and in trying to escape the killers he gets stuck in an elevator.*

NOTE: This script was also produced on 8-11-57



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### **VISION OF DEATH (6-1-53) #514**

Author: Jerry Hausner

Adaptation by Walter Brown Newman

Sound: Gene Twombly, Ross Murray

RONALD COLMAN (Jud Stone), Mary Jane Croft (Aurora Stone), Hy Averback (Harry Arnold), Benny Rubin (Stanford / Manager), Julie Bennett (Phone operator), Charles Calvert (Telegram guy / Bartender), Larry Thor (Narrator)

COMMERCIAL: Ken Christy, Harlow Wilcox, Sylvia Simms

*A phony stage mentalist finds that his wife & stage assistant really can read minds.*

NOTES: This script was originally produced on 3-8-51.

According to a note by Sam Frank in his Ronald Colman book, this show was a hasty substitute for the “previously announced” The Voyages of Sinbad. It is an erroneous attribution however, as “Vision of Death” was actually announced at the end of “Pigeon in the Cage.”

The Sinbad story was produced later that week on *ESCAPE*, 6-7-53

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### **THE MYSTERY OF THE MARIE CELESTE (6-8-53) #515**

Author: Gil Doud

Assistant director: Bob Hendricks

Sound: Ross Murray, Gene Twombly

VAN HEFLIN (Sam Newcomb), Jeanette Nolan (Grace Briggs), Bill Conrad (Bowe), Paul Frees (Hubbard / Passerby), Joe Kearns (Officer / Captain Briggs), Dan O’Herlihy (Narrator), Hal Gerard (Lindley the Deckhand), Larry Thor (*Suspense* narrator)

COMMERCIAL: Bert Holland, Harlow Wilcox, Sylvia Simms

*A dramatization of the famous puzzler about a ship found adrift in 1872 in good shape, but no sign of any crew or passenger aboard.*

NOTE: This script was also produced on 12-27-55

*SUSPENSE* takes a summer break, as Elliott Lewis unveils his new series *CRIME CLASSICS*, which bows on 6-15-53.

The 1953-54 *SUSPENSE* season will be the last sponsored by Auto-Lite.

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### **MESSAGE TO GARCIA (9-14-53, PRE-CUT: 8-30) #516**

Author: Elbert Hubbard

Adaptation by Richard Chandlee

Music: Rene Garriguenc

Assistant director: Bob Hendricks

Engineer: Pat Walsh

Sound: Bill James, Ray Kemper

RICHARD WIDMARK (Lieutenant Andrew Rowan), Joseph Kearns (Carter / Sanchez the Soldier), Lillian Buyeff (Teresa), Anthony Barrett (Ceruasio), Jack Kruschen (Dr. Jose Rubio), Ted de Corsia (Dominguin), Edgar Barrier (General Garcia), Ernest Newton (Vocalist [in style of Calypso singer Sir Galahad]), Larry Thor (Narrator)

COMMERCIAL: Bert Holland, Harlow Wilcox, Sylvia Simms

*With the war between Spain and America imminent a spy searches in Cuba for General Garcia.*

NOTE: Widmark receives a Golden Mike Award (his second) from Elliott Lewis

---

**THE EMPTY CHAIR (9-21-53, PRE-CUT) #517**

Authors: Morton Fine & David Fredkin

Music: Rene Garriguenc

AGNES MOOREHEAD (Barbara Warner), Joseph Kearns (Mr. Douglas), Sam Edwards (Bobby Morrison), Michael Chapin (David Cooper), Paula Winslowe (Mrs. Morrison), Herb Butterfield (Officer Cleaver / Charlie), Larry Thor (Narrator)

*A show promoting safe driving. A teenage schoolboy is exhibiting recklessness behind the wheel and is a danger to himself and others.*

NOTES: Guests are Royce Martin (president of Electric Auto-Lite) and Ralph Thomas of the Automobile & Traffic Association

Agnes Moorehead receives a Golden Mike Award from Elliott Lewis

---

**HELLFIRE (9-28-53, PRE-CUT: 9-10) #518**

Author: Ross Murray

Engineer: George Foster

Sound: Bill James, Ross Murray

JOHN HODIAK (Wally Drake), Joseph Kearns (Smiley), Clayton Post (Pete), Charlotte Lawrence (Dorothy Drake), Jerry Hausner (Collins), Junius Matthews (Hotchkiss), Herb Butterfield (MacLain), Dick Ryan (Whitey), Larry Thor (Narrator)

COMMERCIAL: Bert Holland, Harlow Wilcox

*A deadly fire breaks out in an oil field and it seems impossible to quell.*

---

**ACTION (10-5-53) #519**

Author: C. E. Montague

Adaptation by Antony Ellis

Sound: Ross Murray, Gus Bayz

HERBERT MARSHALL (Chris Bell), Ellen Morgan (Hillary Gollen), Parley Baer (Gaspard), Herb Butterfield (Tillet / Brough), Richard Peel (Adrian [member #1]), Ben Wright (Conductor / Dr. Teddy Gollen), Larry Thor (Narrator)

COMMERCIAL: Dal McKennon, Dick Beals, Harlow Wilcox

*A man is told he has only a short time to live, and his response is to undertake a dangerous climb on an icy mountain.*

NOTES: This story was originally produced twice on the *ESCAPE* series (4-4-48 & 7-21-49)

Due to a studio technical glitch, parts of the national network were unable to enjoy the conclusion of this show

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**THE SHOT (10-12-53, PRE-CUT 10-8) #520**

Author: Alexander Pushkin

Adaptation by E. Jack Neuman

Assistant director: Bill Nelson

Sound: Bill James, Ray Kemper

VAN HEFLIN (Lt. Zachary Payton), Harry Bartell (Jim Stockwell), Jack Edwards (Ben Rolls), Jane Webb (Marsha), Joseph Kearns (Willis), Barney Phillips (Referee / Pauk), James Eagles (Quincy), Larry Thor (Narrator)

*During a duel of honour one man misses and his opponent asks to have his turn at a later date.*



NOTE: This script was also produced on 12-2-54

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**MY TRUE LOVE'S HAIR (10-19-53) #521**

Authors: Morton Fine & David Friedkin

Sound: Ross Murray, Gus Bayz

JEFF CHANDLER (John Harvorson), Lillian Buyeff (Rachel), Betty Harford (Mary), Paula Winslowe (Mrs. Genuit), Martha Wentworth (Supply Woman / Voice), Joseph Kearns (Mr. Genuit / Man), Clayton Post (Red), Jack Kruschen (Old Man / Native), Ben Wright (Ernest / Somerset), Ernest Newton (Vocalist), Larry Thor (Narrator)

COMMERCIAL: Dick Ryan, Harlow Wilcox, Sylvia Simms

*A dramatization of the folk song in which a temptress causes a young sailor to commit murder.*

NOTE: Harlow Wilcox blunders when introducing Chandler as "Jeff Alexander" [the musician]. The embarrassment is palpable

---

**DUTCH SCHULTZ (10-26-53) #522**

Author: James Poe

Sound: Ross Murray, Gus Bayz

BRODERICK CRAWFORD (Dutch Schultz), Jay Novello (Lucky), Herb Butterfield (Harry), Hy Averbach (Ginch), Paul Frees (Newsboy / Toy), Sidney Miller (Cigarette seller + Bug), Jack Moyles (Flot), Tony Barrett (Albert), Benny Rubin (Gurrah), Marvin Kaplan (Abadaba), Larry Thor (Narrator)

COMMERCIAL: Dal McKennon, Bert Holland, Harlow Wilcox

*A powerful but unstable racketeer begins making enemies and he learns his time is running out.*

NOTE: The *SUSPENSE* TV series produced this story on 7-14-53

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**ORDEAL IN DONNER PASS (11-2-53) #523**

Author: Arthur Ross

Sound: Gus Bayz, Ross Murray

EDMOND O'BRIEN (Patrick Breen), Paula Winslowe (Mrs. Breen), Mary Lansing (Mrs. Graves / Baby), Charlotte Lawrence (Mrs. Reed), Joseph Kearns (Mr. Graves), John Dehner (Rhoades), Harry Bartell (Mr. Eddy), Parley Baer (Donner), Larry Thor (Narrator)

COMMERCIAL: Ken Christy (Senator), Harlow Wilcox, Sylvia Simms

*The true story of the Donner party whose covered wagon gets caught in a blizzard. To survive, desperate measures were taken.*

---

**NEEDLE IN THE HAYSTACK (11-9-53, PRE-CUT: 11-1) #524**

Author: E. Jack Neuman, from Captain Walter Karig's 1952 Korean battle report

Engineer: George Foster

Sound: Clark Casey, Gene Twombly

WILLIAM HOLDEN (Commander Don DeForest), Joseph Kearns (Captain Spofford), Jack Kruschen (Horla, the Wun San fisherman / Pee Hoo, the Villager), Ben Wright (Lieutenant Shing), Steve Roberts (Sand Hee / Pilot), David Young (Lieutenant), Bert Holland (Seaman), Ted Bliss (Commander), Larry Thor (Narrator)

COMMERCIAL: Bert Holland, Harlow Wilcox, Sylvia Simms

*An American boat can't dock at a Korean harbor because of the many land mines.*

NOTE: The *SUSPENSE* TV series produced this show the next night, 11-10-53

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**THE MOONSTONE, PART 1 (11-16-53) #525**

Author: Wilkie Collins

Adaptation by Richard Chandlee

Sound: Ross Murray, Gus Bayz

PETER LAWFORD (Franklin Blake), Ellen Morgan (Rachel Verinda), Betty Harford (Rosanna), Bill Johnstone (Dr. Candy + Rhama [Man 1]), Ben Wright (Sergeant Cuff + Nihal [Man 2]), Herb Butterfield (Matthew Bruff), Pat Hitchcock (Penelope), Norma Varden (Lady Julia Verinda), Eric Snowdon (Betteridge), Alastair Duncan (Godfrey Abelwhite), Dick Beals (Boy), Larry Thor (Narrator)

COMMERCIAL: Leone Ledoux, Bert Holland, Harlow Wilcox

*A society woman inherits a large diamond that comes with a curse, but it goes missing from her boudoir.*

---

**THE MOONSTONE, PART 2 (11-23-53) #526**

Music conducted this week by Wilbur Hatch

Sound: Ross Murray, Gus Bayz

PETER LAWFORD (Franklin Blake), Betty Harford (Rosanna), Ellen Morgan (Rachel Verinda), Norma Varden (Lady Julia Verinda), Bill Johnstone (Dr. Candy), Ben Wright (Sergeant Cuff), Herb Butterfield (Matthew Bruff), Eric Snowdon (Betteridge), Alastair Duncan (Godfrey Abelwhite), Larry Thor (Narrator)

*In Part Two, the long search for the missing Moonstone diamond leads to a death.*

---

**THE WRECK OF THE MAID OF ATHENS (11-30-53) #527**

Author: Emily Woolridge

Adaptation by Gil Doud

Sound: Ross Murray, Gus Bayz

AGNES MOOREHEAD (Emily Wooldridge), Ben Wright (Lawson), Joseph Kearns (Captain Richard Wooldridge), Larry Thor (Narrator), Richard Peel (Hayward), Jack Kruschen (Oates / Man)

COMMERCIAL: Bert Holland, Harlow Wilcox, Sylvia Simms

*A ship sinks and surviving passengers and crew end up on an island, convinced the Captain's wife brings bad luck.*

---

**TRENT'S LAST CASE (12-7-53) #528**

Author: E. C. Bentley

Adaptation by Oliver Gard

Sound: Ross Murray, Gus Bayz

RONALD COLMAN (Philip Trent), Ellen Morgan (Mrs. Mabel Manderson), Joseph Kearns (Mr. Cupples), Richard Peel (Murch), Gloria Ann Simpson (Telegraph Woman), Bill Johnstone (Sir John Marlowe), Larry Thor (Narrator), Ben Wright (Porter / Marlowe), Dick Beals (Newsboy)

*A reporter is determined to solve a murder case without help from police.*

---

**THE MYSTERY OF MARIE ROGET**  
**(12-14-53, PRE-CUT 12-6) #529**

Author: Edgar Allan Poe

Adaptation by E. Jack Neuman

Sound: Tom Hanley, Bill James

CORNEL WILDE (Dupin), John Dehner (Police Prefect), Lou Merrill (Beauvais), Jeanette Nolan (Madame Dulac), Paula Winslowe (Marie Roget), Bill Johnstone (Judge / Fisherman), Edgar Barrier (Anatomy Doctor), Junius Matthews (Cabby), Larry Thor (Narrator)

COMMERCIAL: Bert Holland, Harlow Wilcox, Sylvia Simms

*A Poe short story about detective Dupin solving the murder of a young woman killed in New York with no apparent motive.*

NOTES: This script was also produced on 2-7-60.

The next show was announced as "On a Country Road," but that script wasn't produced until 1-4-54

---

**'TWAS THE NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS** (12-21-53, PRE-CUT 12-18) #530

Authors: Morton Fine & David Friedkin

Sound: Ross Murray, Gus Bayz

GREER GARSON (Miss Buff), Ann Whitfield (Kathy Harper), Irene Tedrow (Mrs. Cleveland), Mary Lansing (Mrs. Harper), Harry Bartell (Mr. Harper), Herb Butterfield (Uncle John / Patrolman Reid), Sidney Miller (Reporter), Howard McNear (Choir Leader's Voice / Mr. Anderson), Joseph Kearns (Mr. Ruxton the druggist), Charles Calvert (Santa Claus), Johnny McGovern (Johnny), John Ramsay Hill

(Paul), The Roger Wagner Chorale (Chorus), Larry Thor (Narrator)

*A young girl awaits the return of her parents from Paris via a flight which crashes.*

NOTE: This script was originally produced on 12-24-51

---

**THE QUEEN'S RING** (12-28-53, PRE-CUT 12-20) #531

Authors: Morton Fine & David Friedkin

Engineer: George Foster

Sound: Tom Hanley, Clark Casey

JAMES MASON (Robert Devereaux of Essex), Pamela Kellino (Mary Howard), Joseph Kearns (Roger), Ben Wright (Sean / Jailer), Jeanette Nolan (Queen Elizabeth), Larry Thor (Narrator)

COMMERCIAL: Bert Holland, Harlow Wilcox, Sylvia Simms

*Lord Essex is caught attempting to overthrow Queen Elizabeth, and is jailed awaiting death by hanging.*

NOTE: The *SUSPENSE* TV show produced this story on 6-21-53

---

**ON A COUNTRY ROAD** (1-4-54, PRE-CUT: 12-21-53) #532

Author: Walter Bazar

Sound: Gus Bayz, Ross Murray

FRANK LOVEJOY (David), Joan Banks (Dorothy), Jeanette Nolan (Nellie), Joseph Kearns (Cop), William Woodson (News Announcer), Larry Thor (Narrator)

*A husband and wife break down while driving on the same night that radio news reports a murderous mad woman running loose.*

NOTE: This popular script was also produced on 11-16-50, 12-9-54 & 5-10-59

---

**THE ONE-MAN CRIME WAVE**  
**(1-11-54, PRE-CUT: 1-5) #533**

Author: Antony Ellis

Sound: Gus Bayz, Ralph Cummings

DANA ANDREWS (Sergeant Faring), Lee Millar (Driscoll), Paula Winslowe (Mrs. Mead), Charlotte Lawrence (Waitress), Joseph Kearns (Frederick Sorenson), Junius Matthews (Winters), Tom Tully (McDonnaugh / Matson)

COMMERCIAL: Bert Holland, Harlow Wilcox, Sylvia Simms

*Police seem powerless to catch a mad slasher killer because of a total lack of evidence.*

---

**THE FACE IS FAMILIAR (1-18-54, PRE-CUT: 1-10) #534**

Author: Arthur Ross

Engineer: George Foster

Sound: Gene Twombly, Clark Casey

JACK BENNY (Tom Jones), Sheldon Leonard (Harry Edmond), Clayton Post (Joe / Man 2), Joseph Kearns (Bank Teller / Cop), Herb Butterfield (Boss), Jeane Wood (Woman in Queue), Hy Averback (Man 1 [in Queue]), Stanley Farrar (Bank Teller 2), Larry Thor (Narrator)

*A man with a face so plain that no-one ever recalls him is used by thieves in a bank robbery.*

NOTES: The first of ten co-sponsored shows, here Auto-Lite with DeSoto Motors

Jack Benny later starred in a 1954 TV adaptation on *GENERAL ELECTRIC THEATRE*

---

**WANT AD (1-25-54, PRE-CUT: 1-17) #535**

Author: E. Jack Neuman

Engineer: Pat Walsh

Sound: Clark Casey, Ralph Cummings

ROBERT CUMMINGS (Ralph Vernon), Mary Jane Croft (Wilma), Virginia Gregg (Frances the Policewoman), Paula Winslowe (Mrs. Phelps), Charles Calvert (Frank Phelps), Larry Thor (Policeman / Narrator / Walter)

*A petty thief finds easy marks via classified ads, preying on owners alone at home.*

NOTES: This script was also produced on 7-11-56

Guest: Mrs. Cornelius Vanderbilt Whitney

Co-sponsors: Auto-Lite and Hudson Motors

---

**NEVER FOLLOW A BANJO ACT**  
**(2-1-54, PRE-CUT: 1-16) #536**

Author: James Poe

Dual-Pianists: Walter Gross, Vic Dimonti

Engineer: Pat Walsh

Sound: Ross Murray, Berne Surrey

ETHEL MERMAN (Rosie Jones), Joseph Kearns (Ray Kramm), Paul Frees (Earl White / Voice), Shep Menken (Terry Dane), Jerry Hausner (Benny), Ben Wright (Johnson), Jess Kirkpatrick (Ray / Drunk), Larry Thor (Narrator)

*A veteran performer is asked by a powerful agent to train a new crooning talent, but the young hopeful is actually a dangerous murdering sociopath.*

NOTES: This script was also produced on 3-2-58

Guest: Basil O'Connor, March of Dimes  
Chairman

Co-sponsors: Auto-Lite and Plymouth  
Motors

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**DEATH AT SKRIKERUD POND**  
**(2-8-54, PRE-CUT: 2-7) #537**

TV Author: James Cavanaugh (from  
Theodore Olsen's report)

Radio adaptation by Morton Fine & David  
Friedkin

Engineer: Pat Walsh

Sound: Clark Casey, Gene Twombly

JEFF CHANDLER (Arne Leukin), Paula  
Winslowe (Anna Helman), Cathy Lewis  
(Helga Hanson), Herb Butterfield  
(Foreman / Mr. Helman), Byron Kane  
(Sven Hanson), Lou Merrill (Olsen), Jack  
Kruschen (Knut / Judge), Joseph Kearns  
(Prosecutor), Herb Ellis (George Helman),  
Larry Thor (Narrator)

COMMERCIAL: Bert Holland, Harlow  
Wilcox

*A member of the Danish underground kills  
an old couple who he suspects are  
squealing to the Germans.*

NOTES: The *SUSPENSE* TV show  
dramatized this story on 10-6-53

Guest: Bruce Palmer, United Defence  
Fund Chairman

Co-sponsors: Auto-Lite and Trucking  
Industry

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**THE OUTER LIMIT (2-15-54, PRE-CUT:  
2-7) #538**

Author: Graham Doar

Adaptation by Morton Fine & David  
Friedkin

Engineer: Pat Walsh

Sound: Clark Casey, Gene Twombly

WILLIAM HOLDEN (Bill Westfall),  
Edgar Barrier (Guardian Yegton), Bill  
Johnstone (Colonel Henry), Jack Kruschen  
(Countdown / Alien Zzyl), Hy Averbach  
(Joe), Joseph Kearns (Hargrove), Jerry  
Hausner (Tower Voice), Harry Bartell  
(The Major), Charles Calvert (Crew  
Chief), Larry Thor (Narrator)

COMMERCIAL: Bert Holland, Byron  
Kane, Harlow Wilcox

*The pilot of a rocket ship, after seemingly  
disappearing, returns with a message -  
apparently from an alien force - about the  
Earth's imminent destruction.*

NOTES: This script was originally  
produced on *ESCAPE* (2-7-50) and was  
produced again for *SUSPENSE* on 3-17-57

Guest: Judge Raymond Tiffany, President  
of the National Society for Crippled  
Children & Adults

Co-Sponsors: Auto-Lite and Dodge  
Motors

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**MURDER BY JURY (2-22-54) #539**

Author: Michael Gilbert

Adaptation by Antony Ellis

Sound: Gus Bayz, Ross Murray

HERBERT MARSHALL (Peyton), Joseph  
Kearns (MacCrae the prosecutor), Ben  
Wright (Edward Mason), William  
Johnstone (Inspector + Foreman), Herb  
Butterfield (Judge), Richard Peel (Hector)

Easterday / Riegel), Norma Varden (Miss Mason), Betty Harford (Amy Burke), Keith McConnell (Director of Prosecutions), Larry Thor (Narrator)

*A man is acquitted of killing his wife but three years later new evidence proves him guilty.*

NOTES: Guest: Mark H. Harrington, President of the National TB Association

Co-Sponsors: Auto-Lite and Wyllis Motors

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### **THE BARKING DEATH (3-1-54) #540**

Authors: Morton Fine & David Friedkin

Sound: Gus Bayz, Ross Murray

WILLIAM POWELL (Paul the Doctor), Joe Kearns (Joe the Lab Man / Dr. Kremer), Hy Averback (Paul the Police Operator / Lieutenant Stevens), Junius Matthews (Cliff Loomis), Jack Kruschen (Harry Wood / Roberts), Paula Winslowe (Mrs. Rokey), Ted Bliss (Collins Newspaperman / Phil), Dick Beals (Peter Barrett), Jeane Wood (Mrs. Stone), Larry Thor (Narrator)

*A rabid dog is loose in the city and authorities discover a young boy has taken it home.*

NOTES: Guest: William Zigler, President of the American Foundation of the Blind

Co-Sponsors: Auto-Lite and Studebaker Motors

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### **CIRCUMSTANTIAL TERROR (3-8-54) #541**

Author: Ross Murray

Sound: Gus Bayz, Ross Murray

RONALD REAGAN (Frank Thompson), Charles Calvert (Sam), Clayton Post (Eddie), Kurt Martell (Officer / Voice), Howard McNear (Ernest Gibbons), Vic Perrin (Charles the Killer), Hal Gerard (Irv), Larry Thor (Narrator)

*A man argues with a liquor store owner, then returns to apologize but finds the owner murdered.*

NOTE: Guest: General George Kennedy, President of the Arthritis and Rheumatism Foundation

Co-Sponsors: Auto-Lite and Nash Motors

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### **THE GIRL IN CAR THIRTY-TWO (3-15-54, PRE-CUT: 3-7) #542**

Author: Thomas Walsh

Adaptation by E. Jack Neuman

Engineer: George Foster

Sound: Tom Hanley, Bill James

VICTOR MATURE (Bright Eyes Mahoney), Cathy Lewis (Genevieve Johnson), Bill Conrad (Sergeant Dane), Herb Butterfield (The Sheriff / Newsboy), Joseph Kearns (Fritzie / Caller), Roy E. Glenn (The Porter), John Dehner (Charlie Buker), Larry Thor (Narrator)

*A detective working undercover gets to know a woman who might be assisting a jewel thief.*

NOTES: Guest: E. Rolland Harriman (Chairman, The American Red Cross)

Co-Sponsors: Auto-Lite and Packard Motors



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**THE GUILTY ALWAYS RUN (3-22-54, PRE-CUT: 3-9) #543**

Authors: Morton Fine & David Friedkin

Sound: Ralph Cummings, Gus Bayz

TYRONE POWER (Jeff Marlowe), Cathy Lewis (Janey Marlowe), Bill Conrad (Lou Foster), Charlotte Lawrence (Karen Lawrence / Phyllis George), Frank Nelson (Norm Sloan), Jack Kruschen (Detective Anders), Larry Thor (Narrator)

*A married surfer flirts with a young woman who ends up dead on the California beach.*

NOTES: Guest: Fleet Admiral William E. Tosley (Campaign Chairman, the Mental Health Fund)

Co-Sponsors: Auto-Lite and Kaiser Motors

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**SOMEBODY HELP ME (3-29-54, PRE-CUT: 3-23) #544**

Authors: Morton Fine & David Friedkin

Based on research by Edward D. Raden

Sound: Bill James, Gus Bayz

CORNEL WILDE (Eddie Franklin), Mary Jane Croft (Shirley Franklin), Cathy Lewis (Eileen Hall), Paula Winslowe (Lois Anderson), Charlotte Lawrence (Toby the Car Hop), Larry Thor (Narrator), Hy Averbach (Yardley / Ryan), Sam Edwards (Bernie / Gibson), Joe Kearns (Tomasino), Charles Calvert (Gilchrist)

*A vicious loner picks up women by using a practiced sob story, then kills them.*

---

**GRAND THEFT (4-5-54) #545**

Author: E. Jack Neuman

Sound: Ross Murray, Bill James

DAVID NIVEN (Ben Bentley), Mary Jane Croft (Maude), Florence Walcott (Grandma Mullin), Truda Marson (Mrs. Payne), Paula Winslowe (Mrs. Prescott), Vic Perrin (Pawn Shop Clerk / Detective Ivers), Joseph Kearns (Mr. Coombes), Larry Thor (Narrator)

*A jewellery claim adjuster decides to claim insurance for a phony robbery, but must prove it happened for the inspectors.*

---

**PAROLE TO PANIC (4-12-54, PRE-CUT: 4-4) #546**

Author: Ross Murray

Engineer: George Foster

Sound: Gus Bayz, Ross Murray

BRODERICK CRAWFORD (Paul), Paula Winslowe (Jenny), Joseph Kearns (Warden / Police Lieutenant), Junius Matthews (Mr. Miller), Hy Averbach (Roger Miller), Barney Phillips (Voice / Gas Station Attendant), Larry Thor (Narrator)

*An ex-con is paroled and finds he must run from his old gang who believe he turned state's evidence.*

NOTE: Guest: Betty Goodie, Editor of *Radio-TV Mirror*, with Elliott Lewis

---

**THE CARD GAME (4-19-54, PRE-CUT) #547**

Author: E. Jack Neuman

Engineer: George Foster

Sound: Bill James, Tom Hanley

RICHARD WIDMARK (Chick Regan), Clayton Post (Harry / Max), Cathy Lewis (Jenny), Jay Novello (Jim Santo), Hy Averbach (Walshie), Eddy Fields (Phil Archer), Lou Krugman (Lew Humboldt), Joe Granby (Larry), Larry Thor (Narrator) [Joe Kearns (Walsh / Charlie)]

*A chronic gambler loses a card game and his pregnant wife leaves him. Embittered, he continues gambling.*

---

**THE BERTILLION METHOD (4-26-54, PRE-CUT: 4-16) #548**

Authors: Morton Fine & David Friedkin

Engineer: George Foster

Sound: Ray Kemper, Tom Hanley

CHARLES BOYER (Alphonse Bertillion), Herb Butterfield (Chief Camascasse), John Dehner (Narrator / Jacque the Hotelier), Vic Perrin (Girard / Dumier), Jane Webb (Marcelline / Mrs. Cabassou), Edgar Barrier (Marcel Cabassou), Larry Thor (Narrator)

*A dramatization of the famous French criminologist who developed the practice of fingerprinting in crime solving.*

NOTE: Boyer subsequently played Bertillion on the 2-11-55 *HALLMARK HALL OF FAME*

---

**THE GIANT OF THERMOPYLAE (5-3-54, PRE-CUT: 4-25) #549**

Author: E. Jack Neuman

Engineer: George Foster

Sound: Gus Bayz, Gene Twombly

FRANK LOVEJOY (James Bernard Walters), Charlotte Lawrence (Mary Jane Kennedy), Joseph Kearns (Sheriff), Jerry Hausner (Hot Dog Vendor), Paul Frees (Ticket Seller 2 / Giant's Laughter), Herb Ellis (Barker / Owen), Larry Thor (Narrator)

COMMERCIAL: Bert Holland, Harlow Wilcox, Sylvia Simms

*A criminal released from jail goes to a circus fun house to find the person who had him arrested.*

---

**THE LAST DAYS OF JOHN DILLINGER (5-10-54, PRE-CUT: 5-5) #550**

Authors: Morton Fine & David Friedkin

Engineer: Pat Walsh

Sound: Clark Casey, Ralph Cummings

VAN HEFLIN (Dillinger), Cathy Lewis (Woman / Anna), Michael Ann Barrett (Molly), Joseph Kearns (Rowley the Cop), Roy Glenn (Herbie), Parley Baer (Ernie / Voice 2), Sam Edwards (Paul Harvey), Joe Granby (Doctor), Larry Thor (Narrator), Tom Brown (Nelson), Jimmie Eagles (Voice)

COMMERCIAL: Bert Holland, Harlow Wilcox, Sylvia Simms

*A dramatization of the notorious Public Enemy Number One who altered his looks to avoid detection.*



---

**THE REVENGE OF CAPTAIN BLIGH**  
**(5-17-54, PRE-CUT: 5-9) #551**

Author: Antony Ellis

Engineer: George Foster

Sound: Clark Casey, Berne Surrey

CHARLES LAUGHTON (Captain William Bligh), Ben Wright (Midshipman Hayward), Bill Johnstone (Hallett), Charles Davis (Able Seaman Hall), Joseph Kearns (Quarter Master), Antony Ellis (Seaman Cole / Voice), Larry Thor (Narrator)

COMMERCIAL: Bert Holland, Harlow Wilcox, Sylvia Simms

*The story of the events after the infamous Mutiny on the Bounty.*

NOTE: Charles Laughton here reprises his famous 1935 film role.

---

**WEEKEND SPECIAL: DEATH (5-24-54, PRE-CUT: 5-13) #552**

Author: E. Jack Neuman

Assistant Director: Bob Shue

Sound: Ross Murray, Jack Dick

AGNES MOOREHEAD (Rita Dorsey), Anthony Barrett (Tony Laferro), Joseph Kearns (Fred), Hy Averbach (Lieutenant Franz), Mary Jane Croft (Special Operator), Whitfield Connor (Lee Stanley), Barney Phillips (Grocer / Voice), Larry Thor (Narrator)

*A woman tries to stay quiet in a locked supermarket at night after witnessing an attempted robbery.*

---

**LISTEN, YOUNG LOVERS (5-31-54, PRE-CUT) #553**

Authors: Morton Fine & David Friedkin, from a report by David Camelon

Engineer: Pat Walsh

Sound: Ralph Cummings, Berne Surrey

ROBERT WAGNER (Jinrich), MONA FREEMAN (Milade), Sam Edwards (Joe, the American Corporal), Frank Goss (Radio Voice [V.O.F.C.]), Joseph Kearns (Stefan), Steve Roberts (Czech / Soldier), Harry Bartell (Farmer), Lou Merrill (Radik), Jack Kruschen (German / Corporal), Edit Angold (Woman), Jimmie Eagles (American Sergeant), Larry Thor (Narrator)

COMMERCIAL: Bert Holland, Harlow Wilcox, Sylvia Simms

*A young couple attempt to escape the oppressive Communist regime in Czechoslovakia.*

NOTE: This script was also produced on 2-14-56

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**A TERRIBLY STRANGE BED (6-7-54) #554**

Author: Wilkie Collins

Adaptation by Morton Fine & David Friedkin

Sound: Ross Murray, Gus Bayz

PETER LAWFORD (Henry Calder), Ben Wright (Gerald Tichener), Paula Winslowe (Millie Prudhomme / Woman), Joseph Kearns (Fabian), Vic Perrin (The Croupier), Larry Thor (Narrator)

COMMERCIAL: Bert Holland, Harlow Wilcox, Sylvia Simms

*An English cop in France wins big at the gaming table, gets drunk and ends up in a hotel room in a weird booby trapped bed.*

NOTE: This was the final of the 259 Auto-Lite sponsored shows, and the final *SUSPENSE* show for commercial announcer Harlow Wilcox who had announced 246 of the Auto-Lite series.

# **SUSPENSE, THE POST-AUTO-LITE YEARS, JUNE 1954 TO OCTOBER 1956**

A sustaining summer series, with lowered budget, smaller orchestra and minus the big-name movie stars, is announced, with the schedule changed to Tuesdays, 8:30-9:00 pm ET

## **Sustaining series credits:**

Produced and directed by Elliott Lewis

Assistant director: Ken McManus

Secretary: Grace Curcio

Announcer: Bob Lemond

Music: Lucien Morawek (until 6-21-55 [unless noted])

Conducted by Lud Gluskin (until 3-8-55 [unless noted])

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## **THE EARTH IS MADE OF GLASS (6-15-54) #555**

Author: Silvia Richards

Sound: Gus Bayz, Ralph Cummings

Engineer: Stan Carr

Joseph Kearns (Richard Steel), Whitfield Connor (Doctor West), Charlotte Lawrence (Nurse 1 / Woman 1), Herb Butterfield (Eliot), Jerry Hausner (Salesclerk / Joe the soda clerk), Paula Winslowe (Woman 2 / Librarian), Junius Matthews (Hardware Proprietor), Larry Thor (Narrator)

*A coldly confident man is obsessed with the idea of committing the perfect murder and he appears to do just that.*

NOTE: This script was originally produced on 9-27-45

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## **SEQUEL TO MURDER (6-22-54) #556**

Author: E. Jack Neuman

Music: Rene Garriguenc

Conducted by Wilbur Hatch

Whitfield Connor (Frank Galt), Charlotte Lawrence (Bessie Lucas), Betty Lou Gerson (Lillian Galt), Joseph Kearns (Walsh / Cop), Jack Kruschen (Blaine Kittridge), Larry Thor (Narrator)

*A book editor commits a copycat murder based on a fictional story he commissioned.*

NOTES: End credits announce the roles played by the cast

Rene Garriguenc composes this show's score; he will return in exactly a year to succeed long-time *SUSPENSE* composer Lucien Morawek.

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## **TOO HOT TO LIVE (6-29-54) #557**

Author: Sam Rolfe

Sound: Bill James, Ray Kemper

Engineer: Stan Carr

Sam Edwards (Jefferson Casey), Paul Frees (Benjamin Martin), Mary Jane Croft (Rachael), Lee Millar (Kenny), Junius Matthews (Pop Clovis), Charles Calvert (Stranger [Carny Man]), Herb Butterfield (Driver / Brakeman), Jeane Wood (Woman), Larry Thor (Narrator)

Middle Commercial announcers: George Walsh & Bob Lemond

*A drifter in a small southwestern town is accused of murdering a young woman.*

NOTE: This script was originally produced on 10-26-50

On 6-30-54, the 51<sup>st</sup> and final instalment of Elliott Lewis' *CRIME CLASSICS* series aired.

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**THE TIP (7-6-54) #558**

Author: Carl Abrams

Lurene Tuttle (Elaine Stratton), Herb Butterfield (The Stranger), Hy Averbach (George Stratton), Howard McNear (Mr. Raymond), Jerry Hausner (Salesman), Shep Menken (Balzac the phone repairman), Dick Beals (Michael Court), Eddy Fields (Dr. Court), Larry Thor (Narrator)

*An ailing woman discovers an armed stranger in her house waiting to kill her husband.*

NOTE: This script was originally produced on 9-7-50

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**RUN, SHEEP, RUN (7-13-54) #559**

Authors: Morton Fine & David Friedkin

Cathy Lewis (Roberta), Elliott Lewis (Joe Haywood), Anthony Barrett (Mark), Jack Kruschen (Radio Voice / Mexican guard), Irene Tedrow (Hazel), Mary Lansing (Operator), Larry Thor (Narrator)

*A man, cheating on his wife, accidentally kills someone while driving in fog, and when he confesses to his wife she thinks he's a drunk.*

NOTE: An AFRS recording survives

---

**TELLING (7-20-54, PRE-CUT) #560**

Author: Elizabeth Bowen

Adaptation by Antony Ellis

Ben Wright (Narrator), Antony Ellis (Terry), Herb Butterfield (Father), Ellen Morgan (Josephine), Betty Harford

(Catherine), John Dehner (John), Richard Peel (Charles), Florence Walcott (Cook), Larry Thor (*SUSPENSE* narrator)

*A man is belittled by his wealthy family, and by a girl he likes, until he snaps and kills her.*

NOTE: This was the final of 170 *SUSPENSE* shows produced and directed by Elliott Lewis. After completing his two remaining radio series in the early Fall of 1954 (*BROADWAY IS MY BEAT* on 8-1 and *ON STAGE* on 9-30), he transitioned from radio production into television assignments.

Norman Macdonnell resumed the *SUSPENSE* Producer/Director role starting with the next show

Continuing as *SUSPENSE* narrator: Larry Thor

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**DESTRUCTION (7-27-54) #561**

Author: Morton Fine & David Friedkin

Sound: Gus Bayz, Ross Murray

Engineer: James Murphy, Ralph Wilson

Larry Dobkin (Joe Porter), Parley Baer (Reamer), Charlotte Lawrence (Vera), Jerry Hausner (Herb), Michael Ann Barrett (Phyllis), John Dehner (Dickie / Collins), Virginia Gregg (Girl / Maid), Clayton Post (Steve), Frank Gerstle (Bar), Georgia Ellis (Ellen), Jack Kruschen (Landis), Larry Thor (Narrator)

*The story of a man's disintegration following the loss of his marriage, his job and his self-esteem.*

Announcer: Bob Lemond

NOTE: On 8-1-54 the final *BROADWAY IS MY BEAT* (produced and directed by Elliott Lewis) was broadcast

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**GOODNIGHT, MRS. RUSSELL (8-3-54) #562**

Author: Ben S. Hunter

Virginia Gregg (Mrs. Russell), Vic Perrin (Henry), Eleanore Tanin, Jill Jarmyn (Diner customers), Larry Thor (Narrator)

*A woman enjoys the food at a diner each day, but when she befriends the cook he kidnaps her.*

NOTE: This script was originally produced on 10-20-49

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**NEVER STEAL A BUTCHER'S WIFE (8-10-54) #563**

Author: James Poe

Hy Averbach (Harry), Jack Kruschen (Nick), Paula Winslowe (Mary), Lawrence Dobkin (Kraus), Larry Thor (Narrator)

*A man gets involved with a brazen woman who is married to a powerfully built butcher.*

NOTE: This script was also produced on 2-9-50 & 12-29-57

*SUSPENSE* was off air for seven weeks, then returned on 9-30-54 in a 25-minute format for the next twelve months. The budget is reduced and the show will rely on many remakes of earlier produced scripts.

Schedule change to Thursdays, 8:00-8:25 pm ET
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**A LITTLE MATTER OF MEMORY (9-30-54) #564**

Author: James Helvick

Adaptation by James Poe

Larry Dobkin (Edward Mansel), Paula Winslowe (Joan Mansel), Edgar Barrier (Officer), Joseph Kearns (George Beale, the Curate), Richard Peel (Killer), Larry Thor (Narrator)

*A couple on an English moor lock themselves indoors when a mad killer is reported to be roaming their neighborhood.*

NOTE: On this day, the final episode of Elliott Lewis' *ON STAGE* was broadcast, marking his final show as a radio producer.

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**CHICKEN FEED (10-7-54) #565**

Author: Lawrence Goldman

Harry Bartell (Ralph Clark), Eleanore Tanin (Operator), Vic Perrin (Officer Jim Brady), Michael Ann Barrett (Mary / Waitress), Edgar Barrier (Drunk in cell), James Nusser (Pete), Clayton Post (Mr. Phillips), Jack Kruschen (Jerry Nichols), Larry Thor (Sergeant Ross / Narrator)

Announcer: George Walsh

*An innocent lawyer is jailed with criminals when his wife, following their recent argument, refuses to alibi him.*

NOTE: This script was also produced on 9-8-49 and 4-21-57

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**LOST (10-14-54) #566**

Author: Jerry D. Lewis

Paula Winslowe (Alice Parker), Herb Vigran (Officer), William Conrad (Lieutenant Neal), John Dehner (Doctor), Michael Ann Barrett (Vance Parker), Larry Thor (Narrator)

*An amnesiac woman might have committed murder.*

---

**RAVE NOTICE (10-21-54) #567**

Author: James Poe

Hans Conried (Sam), Larry Dobkin (Norman), Parley Baer (Actor / First Doctor), Howard McNear (Gun salesman), Jack Kruschen (Guard 1), James Nusser (Guard 2), Edgar Barrier (Lawyer), John Stephenson (Judge / Head Doctor), Eleanor Tanin (Scream), Larry Thor (Narrator)

Announcer: George Walsh

*A vengeful actor shoots his director, then must prove his real acting chops by feigning insanity.*

NOTE: This script was also produced on 10-12-50 & 6-1-58

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**THE SHELTER (10-28-54) #568**

Author: Don Yerrill

Vic Perrin (Man in shelter), Joyce McCluskey (Girl), Helen Kleebe (Martha), Dick Ryan (Car driver), Herb Ellis (Will), Frank Gerstle (News announcer), Larry Thor (Narrator)

Announcer: George Walsh

*A woman fears she is trapped in a bus stop with an escaped psychopath.*

---

**THE LAST LETTER OF DR. BRONSON (11-4-54) #569**

Author: Richard Kreike

Adaptation by Leonard St. Clair

John Dehner (Dr. Bronson), Parley Baer (Dr. Mosher), Howard Culver (Mr. Totten), Paul Richards (Matt Doyle), Virginia Gregg (Dr. Ainsley), James Nusser (Laderne), Larry Thor (Narrator)

Announcer: George Walsh

*A crime doctor has a five point theory about murder and puts himself in danger four times to prove it.*

NOTE: This script was also produced on 7-27-43 & 8-15-46

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**THE SURE THING (11-11-54, PRE-CUT: 11-10) #570**

Author: Ross Murray

Hy Averbach (Phil Brannon), Jerry Hausner (Lefty), Clayton Post (Marty), Julie Bennett (Eileen), Peter Leeds (Lester), Jan Arvan (second gambler), Lou Krugman (First gambler), Charlotte Lawrence (Barbara), William Oyler (Man), Larry Thor (Narrator)

*A bookie gets a hot tip and tries to buy into a syndicate.*

---

**BLIND DATE (11-18-54) #571**

Authors: E. Jack Neuman & Harrison Negley

Music conductor: Wilbur Hatch

Vic Perrin (Vincent Hawthorne), Shirley Mitchell (Gloria LeFay), Lee Millar (Bill the Stage manager), Larry Thor (Narrator)

*A contortionist regrets agreeing to a blind date when the man arrives brandishing a sharp knife.*

NOTE: This script was also produced on 9-29-49

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**SHOOTING STAR (11-25-54) #572**

Author: Ruth Bourne

Music conductor: Wilbur Hatch

Virginia Christine (Gay Lansing), Joseph Kearns (J. D. Zimmer), John Dehner (Benny), Sam Edwards (Delivery Boy), Michael Ann Barrett (Iris), John Larch (Miles / Dave), Jill Jarmyn (Secretary), Larry Thor (Narrator)

*A movie producer insults an actress who has a vengeful streak.*

NOTES: This script was also produced on 3-24-57.

This show survives on an AFRS recording (the AFRS announcer is Marvin Miller)

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**THE SHOT (12-2-54) #573**

Author: Alexander Pushkin

Adaptation by E. Jack Neuman

William Conrad (Lt. Zachary Payton), John Dehner (Ben Rolls), Vic Perrin (Referee), Edgar Barrier (Temple), Parley Baer (Jim Stockwell), Frank Gerstle (Pauk), Marvin Bryan (Quincy), Lynn Allen (Marsha), Larry Thor (Narrator)

*Two young gentlemen argue and decide to have a duel of honor to the finish.*

NOTE: This script was also produced on 10-12-53

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**ON A COUNTRY ROAD (12-9-54) #574**

Author: Walter Bazar

Harry Bartell (David), Virginia Gregg (Dorothy), Helen Kleebe (Nellie), Thomas McKee (Policeman), Jack Carol (Newscaster), Larry Thor (Narrator)

*A couple driving at night hear a radio report of an escaped mad woman in the area just as their car breaks down.*

NOTE: This script was also produced on 11-16-50, 1-4-54 & 5-10-59

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**PRETTY GIRL (12-16-54) #575**

Author: E. Jack Neuman

Lynn Allen (Emmy Carter), Paul Dubov (Lieutenant Gayle), William Justine (Sergeant Norman), Dolores Pinard [Brown] (Sally), Vic Perrin (Ray Hamilton), Tim Graham (Dr. Church), Ann Morrison (Mrs. Church), Sam Edwards (Jud), Larry Thor (Narrator)

Announcer: Dan Clobberly

*A flirtatious college girl meets her match when she clashes with a determined professor.*

NOTE: Working title was "Babysitter" according to Daryl Shelton. Based on the storyline that claim seems dubious.

After fifteen shows, producer-director Norman Macdonnell (busy prepping *GUNSMOKE* for television as well as producing two radio series, *GUNSMOKE & ROMANCE*), leaves *SUSPENSE*, and the series is continued by Antony Ellis, who will produce the next 93 shows



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**PREMONITION (12-23-54) #576**

Author: John Dunkel

Sound: Tom Hanley, John James

Engineer: Robert McKenny

[Music conducted by Bernard Herrmann]

Larry Dobkin (Tony), Charlotte Lawrence (Gwen), Edgar Barrier (Braun), John Dehner (Rouge), Fritz Feld (Landeck), Joe Cranston (Sergeant), Nan Boardman (Madame Rouge), Ben Wright (Radio Announcer)

Narrator: Larry Thor

Announcer: Dan Clobberly

*A man has a strange premonition at a ski lodge and feels he must warn everyone there of imminent danger.*

---

**ODD MAN OUT (12-30-54) #577**

Author: Frederick L. Greene

Adaptation by Antony Ellis

Music conducted by Wilbur Hatch

Ben Wright (Johnny), Betty Harford (Agnes), Joseph Kearns (Shell), Charles Davis (Nolan + 2<sup>nd</sup> Officer), Richard Peel (Pat), Dick Ryan (Fencie), Tom McKee (Murphy), Ray Lawrence (Police Officer), Larry Thor (Narrator)

Announcer: Dan Clobberly

*A member of the IRA is shot during a robbery in Belfast, and then he is betrayed.*

NOTE: This script was also produced on 2-11-52

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**\* MURDER ABOARD THE ALPHABET (1-6-55) #578**

Author: Charles Turrell

Adaptation by Antony Ellis

Music conducted by Wilbur Hatch

William Conrad, Vic Perrin, Parley Baer, "Tom" Krugman, Peter Leeds, Jim Nusser, Howard McNear, Larry Thor (Narrator)

Roles: First Mate Marshland, Captain Godfrey Walker, Higgins, Chief engineer Alec McTavish, 2<sup>nd</sup> Mate Harvey Goodrem, Chadwick

*A neurotic ship's captain is suspected by his crew members of being insane.*

NOTES: This script was originally produced on 8-21-47.

This show is unavailable for review, no recording known

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**FINAL PAYMENT (1-13-55) #579**

Authors: Richard-George Pedicini & Phil Cole

Music conducted by Wilbur Hatch

Harry Bartell (Joe), Peter Leeds (Sam), Vivi Janiss (Joe's wife / Woman), Barney Phillips (Sheridan), Victor Rodman (Judge), John Larch (Hursh), Byron Kane (Mr. Green), Larry Thor (Narrator)

Announcer: Dan Clobberly

*Two army pals plan a phony car accident to cash in on the insurance.*



---

**STUDY OF A MURDERER (1-20-55)  
#580**

Author: Arthur Ross

Sound: Tom Hanley, John James

Engineer: Robert McKenny

Music conducted by Wilbur Hatch

Charlotte Lawrence (Beth), William Conrad (Hank), Herb Butterfield (Doctor), Larry Thor (Radio Commentator + Narrator)

Announcer: Dan Cubberly

*A man obsessively reads news reports about a strangler of pregnant women and wonders if the suspect is actually himself.*

NOTES: This script was also produced, as “Case Study of a Murderer,” on 10-1-51

Announced the previous week as “The Case History of a Murderer”

---

**THE OPERATION (1-27-55) #581**

Author: Charles Jacobs

Music conducted by Wilbur Hatch

Hy Averbach (Carter), Mary Jane Croft (Mrs. Bell), Herb Ellis (Al), Sam Edwards (Danny), John Fell (Watchman), Bill Justine (Officer / Radio voice), John Stephenson (Dr. Bell), Larry Thor (Narrator)

Announcer: Dan Cubberly

*Two criminals, one seriously wounded, mistake a burglar for a doctor and demand that he operates to remove a bullet.*

---

**A KILLING IN ABILENE (2-3-55) #582**

Authors: Gil Doud & Antony Ellis

Parley Baer (Jack Mander), Paula Winslowe (Sarah Costen), Jack Kruschen (Needle), Frank Gerstle (Ben Chappie), James Nusser (Sheriff Jake Garvey), Vic Perrin (Lee Burrage), Joe DuVal (Bob), Will Wright (Old Timer), Larry Thor (Narrator)

Announcer: Dan Cubberly

*A stranger in the Western town of Abilene seeks the murderer of his brother.*

NOTE: This script was originally produced on 12-14-50

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**DIAGNOSIS OF DEATH (2-10-55)  
#583**

Author: John Dunkel

Jeanne Bates (Martha Davis), Lawrence Dobkin (Dr. Jim Kirk), Jerry Hausner (Nicol), Barney Phillips (Sergeant), Charles Lung (Druggist / Simon), Truda Marson (Ann), Richard Beals (Everett [the boy]), Helen Kleebe (Police Radio / Mother), Larry Thor (Narrator)

Announcer: Dan Cubberly

*A hypochondriac patient overhears a diagnosis meant for another person and thinks he will die soon.*

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## **THE MAN WITH THE STEEL TEETH (2-17-55) #584**

Author: John Dehner

Music: Leith Stevens & Lucien Morawek

John Dehner (Arthur Lutrell), Maria Palmer (Maria), Edgar Barrier (MVD), Jack Kruschen (Max Golovin), Robert Boon (Bronislau / Soldier), Larry Thor (Narrator)

Announcer: Dan Clobberly

*An American reporter in Russia is falsely imprisoned and beaten in the dreaded secret KGB police facility, Lubyanka.*

NOTES: This script was previously produced on *ESCAPE*, 3-15-53

The music is an adaptation by Lucien Morawek of an original *ESCAPE* score by Leith Stevens.

This was the final *SUSPENSE* show with file reference recording stored on an acetate disc master

Schedule change to Tuesdays, 8:00-8:25 pm ET
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## **WAITING (2-22-55) #585**

Author: Antony Ellis

Music conducted by Wilbur Hatch

Vivi Janiss (Harriet), Helen Kleebe (Mrs. Martinson), Charlotte Lawrence (Eileen), Tom Hanley (Telegram boy), Larry Thor (Radio voice / Narrator)

Announcer: Dan Clobberly

*A man is awaiting execution and his family count down the minutes amid their own recriminations.*

NOTES: This script was also produced on 10-2-56

This was the first *SUSPENSE* show filed at CBS Hollywood on a 15-inch Ampex tape roll. All shows henceforth will be mastered on tape.

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## **THE SCREAMING WOMAN (3-1-55) #586**

Author: Ray Bradbury

Adaptation by Silvia Richards

Music conducted by Wilbur Hatch

Sherry Jackson (Margaret Leary), Paula Winslowe (Mama), John Dehner (Dad), Richard Beals (Dippy Smith), Howard McNear (Kelly), Joe Cranston (Police Officer), Herb Butterfield (Charles Nesbitt), Eve McVeagh (Anna Kelly / Helen Nesbitt the screaming woman), Larry Thor (Narrator)

Announcer: Dan Clobberly

*A ten year old girl cannot convince anyone that she keeps hearing a screaming sound from underground.*

NOTE: This script was originally produced on 11-25-48

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## **NOBODY EVER QUILTS (3-8-55) #587**

Author: William N. Robson

Music conducted by Lud Gluskin

Tom McKee (Walt Parsons, aka Joey Parino), Peter Leeds (Bat), Joyce McCluskey (Sally Parsons), Jack Kruschen (Big Pete Parelli), Larry Thor (Sergeant Dewey / Narrator), Victor Rodman (Dad), Irene Barton (Vegas Operator), Jan Marlowe (Operator #2), Bill Anders (Radio voice)

Announcer: Dan Clobberly

*A reformed crook is contacted by his old cronies who want him back in the gang.*

NOTE: This script was produced three more times as “Night on Red Mountain” (on 9-15-57, 1-11-59 and 11-20-60)

After twelve years, Lud Gluskin steps down as the regular music conductor, his role now permanently filled by long time CBS staff musician Wilbur Hatch, who has subbed for Gluskin on nine previous occasions since June 1954.

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### **THE GAME (3-15-55) #588**

Author: Antony Ellis

Music: Leith Stevens & Lucien Morawek

Sam Edwards (Red), Gil Stratton, Jr. (Pin), John Dehner (Narrator), Larry Thor (*Suspense* Narrator)

Announcer: Dan Cubberly

*A tense examination of youthful recklessness with a drink-fuelled game of Russian roulette.*

NOTES: This script was originally produced on *ESCAPE*, 8-30-53

Lucien Morawek adapts Leith Stevens’ original *ESCAPE* score for this show

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### **THE CELLAR (3-22-55) #589**

Author: Antony Ellis

Sound: Tom Hanley, John James

Eric Snowdon (Oscar), Jeanette Nolan (Millie), John Dehner (Mr. Gormley), Betty Harford (Aggie), Paula Winslowe (Mrs. Quil), Ramsay Hill (Mr. Forepaugh), Larry Thor (Narrator)

Announcer: Dan Cubberly

*A henpecked decides to man murder his wife and then run off with another woman.*

---

### **GIVE ME LIBERTY (3-29-55) #590**

Author: Herb Meadow

Tony Barrett (Earl French), Michael Ann Barrett (The Woman), Lou Merrill (Detective on train / Police Chief), Helen Kleebe (Train passenger / Woman with dog), Richard Beals (Boy), Jack Carol (Conductor / Search party / Cop), Larry Thor (Narrator)

Announcer: Dan Cubberly

*A thief escapes custody but cannot free himself of his handcuffs.*

NOTES: This script was originally produced on 10-21-48

In the end credits, Thor mistakenly pronounces the surname of Herb Meadow as “Meadows.”

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### **ZERO HOUR (4-5-55) #591**

Author: Ray Bradbury

Adaptation by Antony Ellis

Music: Leith Stevens & Lucien Morawek

Esa Ashdown (Mink Morris), Parley Baer (Henry Morris), Paula Winslowe (Mary Morris), Eve McVeagh (Helen), John Dehner (Narrator), Beverly Hanley (Anna), Larry Thor (*Suspense* Narrator)

Announcer: Dan Cubberly

*A science fiction tale of children under an unknown influence taking over the world and eliminating all adults.*

NOTES: This script was originally produced on *ESCAPE*, 10-4-53.

It was produced twice more for *SUSPENSE*, on 5-18-58 and 1-3-60

Lucien Morawek adapts Leith Stevens’ original *ESCAPE* score for this show

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**LUNCH KIT (4-12-55) #592**

Author: Larry Marcus

Harry Bartell (Jonathan), Parley Baer (Mike), Larry Dobkin (Mr. Davis), Victor Rodman (Dad), Jerry Hausner (Car driver + “End o’ the line, Mac”), Barney Phillips (Doctor), Joe DuVal (Timekeeper), Joe Cranston (employee in queue), Tom Hanley (Ad-libs), Larry Thor (Narrator)

Announcer: Dan Cubberly

*An aggrieved father gets his son to plant a bomb at his place of work.*

NOTE: This script was originally produced on 6-9-49

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**SPEED TRAP (4-19-55) #593**

Author: Hank Searles

Eddie Firestone (Art), Larry Thor (Craig Hollister / Narrator), Lillian Buyeff (Debbie), Tom McKee (Joel the Despatcher), Ted Bliss (Doctor), Jack Kruschen (Sergeant)

Announcer: Dan Cubberly

*Two policemen must chase a speeding driver on a dangerous mountain road.*

NOTE: This script was also produced on 12-8-57

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**SIGHT UNSEEN (4-26-55) #594**

Author: Antony Ellis

Terence DeMarney (Colin Farragut), Betty Harford (Ellen), John Dodsworth (Inspector Ealing), Richard Peel (Wimper), John Irving, Richard Aherne, Charlie Lung, Eric Snowdon (First Man in Bowler hat), Raymond Lawrence (Second man in Bowler hat), Larry Thor (Narrator)

Announcer: Dan Cubberly

*An Englishman recalls the year he was sent to jail for a crime he didn’t commit.*

---

**REMEMBER ME? (5-3-55) #595**

Author: Gus Bayz

Tony Barrett (Harry Norris), Charlotte Lawrence (Ruth Shaw), Joe Kearns (Liebowitz), Lee Millar (Jimmy), Helen Kleebe (Mrs. Dooley), James Nusser (Cop), Larry Thor (Narrator)

Announcer: Dan Cubberly

*A young hood kills a store owner and the girl who witnesses the crime recalls having a big crush on him in school.*

NOTE: This script was also produced on 4-7-52 and 8-24-58

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**GOING, GOING, GONE (5-10-55) #596**

Author: [P. A. Taylor] Antony Ellis

Tom Brown (Wally Pindell), Eve McVeagh (Jen), Joe Kearns (Minchie), Dick Ryan (Floor Man), Joe Forte (Auctioneer), John Dehner (Fling), Larry Thor (Lt. Dixon / Narrator), Gloria Ann Simpson (Woman on Phone)

Announcer: Dan Cubberly

*A couple buy a sealed trunk at an auction but when they open it they discover a treasure of valuable jewels.*

NOTE: This script was originally produced on 11-23-50

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**LILY AND THE COLONEL (5-17-55)  
#597**

Author: John Dehner

Ramsay Hill (Colonel Julian Abernathy),  
John Alderson (Lt. Charles Temple), Paula  
Winslowe (Lily), Dave Young (Matemba),  
Joe Du Val (N’Gumbwe), Larry Thor  
(Narrator)

Announcer: Dan Clobberly

*A British group in Kenya must escape an  
angry Mau Mau uprising.*

NOTE: This script was originally  
produced for the *ESCAPE* series on 5-3-53

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**I SAW MYSELF RUNNING (5-24-55)  
#598**

Author: Antony Ellis

Sound: Bill James, Tom Hanley

Charlotte Lawrence (Sue), John  
Stephenson (Freddie), Sammie Hill  
(Susan), Edgar Barrier (Dr. Peters), Larry  
Thor (Narrator)

*A psychological tale of the dream state  
entering the real world, as a young woman  
is terrified by her recurring dream self.*

NOTE: This script was originally  
produced for the *ESCAPE* series on 2-22-  
53

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**BEIRUT BY SUNRISE (5-31-55) #599**

Author: Richard Chandlee

Mary Jane Croft (Mildred Gideon), Ben  
Wright (Police Officer), Hy Averbach  
(Frank Grady / Native), Jack Kruschen  
(Haroun), Don Diamond (Tour Guide /  
Sailor), Larry Thor (Narrator)

Announcer: Dan Clobberly

*A schoolteacher in Beirut sees a murder  
and is caught up in foreign intrigue.*

NOTE: This script was originally  
produced for *ON STAGE* on 1-8-53

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**FRANKENSTEIN (6-7-55) #600**

Author: Mary W. Shelley

Adaptation by Antony Ellis

Stacy Harris (Victor Frankenstein), Barney  
Phillips (The Monster), Herb Butterfield  
(Gibson), Vivi Janiss (Elizabeth / Mrs.  
Gibson), Larry Thor (Narrator)

*An obsessed scientist tries to find the  
secret of creation, defying natural law.*

NOTE: This script was originally  
produced on 11-3-52

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**THE WHOLE TOWN'S SLEEPING (6-  
14-55) #601**

Author: Ray Bradbury

Adaptation by Antony Ellis

Jeanette Nolan (Lavinia Nebbs), William  
Conrad (Narrator), Eve McVeagh  
(Francine), Tom McKee (Kennedy),  
Florence Walcott (Mrs. Hanlon), Tom  
Brown (Lieutenant / Killer), Will Wright  
(Druggist), Larry Thor (*Suspense* Narrator)

Announcer: Dan Clobberly

*An elderly spinster dares to walk the  
streets while a strangler called "The  
Lonely One" is nearby.*

NOTE: This script was also produced on  
8-31-58

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## **OVER THE BOUNDING MAIN (6-21-55) #602**

Authors: Gloria Elmore & Jimmy Barnett

Adaptation by Antony Ellis

Music: Rene Garriguenc

Conductor: Lud Gluskin

Tony Barrett (Marty Evans), Charlotte Lawrence (Claire Evans), Don Diamond (Ignacio), Jack Kruschen (Captain Moran), Larry Thor (Narrator)

*A man on a charter boat to Catalina discovers that his wife and the captain want to kill him for insurance money.*

NOTES: This script was originally produced on 9-14-50

From this show Rene Garriguenc takes over from Lucien Morawek as the show's composer of musical scores, unless noted. The original *SUSPENSE* conductor Lud Gluskin returns for this and the next show only.

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## **THE HOLDOUT (6-28-55) #603**

Author: Gus Bayz

Sound: Bill James, Tom Hanley

Engineer: Bob Chadwick

Music: Rene Garriguenc

Conducted by Lud Gluskin

Harry Bartell (Gabe Donavan), Parley Baer (Muncy), Joyce McCluskey (Miss Keller), Helen Kleebe (Mrs. Carmichael), Dave Young (Mr. Vale), Will Wright (Mr. Smith), Jean Howell (Mrs. Medina), Joe DuVal (Bailiff), Larry Thor (Narrator)

Announcer: Dan Clobberly

*A lone juror votes not guilty and attempts to sway the minds of the others.*

NOTE: The extant recording of this show is an aircheck with both opening and closing deleted

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## **THE CAVE-IN (7-5-55) #604**

Author: Antony Ellis

Ben Wright (Inspector Glydd), Jay Novello (Evan Lewis), Joe Kearns (Flowers), Richard Peel (Davis), Tudor Owen (Owen), John Dodsworth (Will Vaughn), Charles Davis (Hughie), Larry Thor (Narrator)

Announcer: Dan Clobberly

*Five men are trapped in a Welsh mine shaft accident, then one is murdered.*

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## **KALEIDOSCOPE (7-12-55) #605**

Author: Ray Bradbury

Adaptation by Antony Ellis

William Conrad (Hollis), Howard McNear (LeSpair), Stacy Harris (Applegate), Parley Baer (Stone), John Dehner (Captain), Sam Edwards (Stimson), Georgia Ellis (Mother), Jonathan Ellis (Sonny), Larry Thor (Narrator)

Dan Clobberly (Announcer)

*A spaceship explosion sends the six crew members floating off in different directions, only able to talk via radio.*

NOTES: This story was also produced on the NBC series *DIMENSION X* in 1951

Engineer Robert Chadwick is credited for Special Effects at end.

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### **BACKSEAT DRIVER (7-19-55) #606**

Author: Sally Thorson

Sound: Billy Gould, Bill James

Engineer: Bob Chadwick

Vivi Janiss (Ellie), Parley Baer (Joe Charles), Larry Thor (Newscaster + Narrator), Tony Barrett (Matrick), Jack Edwards (Mike), Joe Cranston (Bill + Cop), Helen Kleebe (Miranda)

Announcer: Gil Warren

*After seeing a movie a couple drive home and discover a dangerous killer hiding in their car.*

NOTE: This script was also produced on 2-3-49 and 2-22-51

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### **THE GREATEST THIEF IN THE WORLD (7-26-55) #607**

Author: Antony Ellis

Ben Wright (Peter Mariot), Joe Kearns (Hyde, the narrator), John Dodsworth (The Man, aka The Squire), Ellen Morgan (Lady Joan Leddington), Raymond Lawrence (Sir Leslie Banbridge / Waiter), Betty Harford (Ginny), Edgar Barrier (Detective), Larry Thor (*SUSPENSE* Narrator)

Announcer: Roy Rowan

*Scotland Yard is baffled by the identity of a notorious jewel thief known as "The Squire."*

NOTE: This script was originally produced on 6-21-51

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### **BLACK DEATH (8-2-55) #608**

Author: Lawrence Goldman

Edgar Barrier (Doctor Gebhardt), William Conrad (Police Chief Williams), Merry McGovern (Patty Gebhardt), Gil Frye (Mac / Police Radio voice), Jack Edwards (Ryan the reporter), James Nusser (Desk Sergeant), Joe Cranston (Intercom voice / Officer), Barney Phillips (Officer at Washington Park), Larry Thor (Narrator)

Announcer: Gil Warren

*A cat escapes an experimental lab after eating a rat infected with black plague bacteria.*

NOTES: Announced as the next show is "The Stool Pigeon" which didn't air until 9-20-55

This story was previously produced on *HOLLYWOOD STAR PLAYHOUSE*, 10-30-50

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### **LOVE, HONOR OR MURDER (8-9-55) #609**

Author: Larry Marcus

Bill Conrad (Harry Blake), Charlotte Lawrence (Helen Blake), Barney Phillips (Dave Harris), Charles Seel (Garage Man / Walker), Helen Kleebe (Housekeeper), Jack Kruschen (Cab Driver), William Justine (Sergeant Graham), Larry Thor (Narrator)

Announcer: Dan Clobberly

*A man finds his boss's wallet, but his wife threatens to leave him if he returns the \$12,000 in cash.*

NOTES: This script was originally produced on 6-29-50

Announced as the next show is "The Stool Pigeon" which didn't air until 9-20-55

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### **A STUDY IN WAX (8-16-55) #610**

Author: Antony Ellis

William Conrad (Jack Hanna), Stacy Harris (Larry Cabell), Larry Thor (Narrator)

*At a frozen Yukon outpost two men must live together even though one of them is going insane.*

NOTE: This script was originally produced on the *ESCAPE* series (2-1-53)

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### **\* THE BEETLE AND MR. BOTTLE (8-23-55) #611**

Author: Richard Chandlee

Eric Snowdon (Bottle), Ellen Morgan, Raymond Lawrence, Paula Winslowe (Ethel), Ben Wright (Charlie + Doctor), Larry Thor (Narrator)

*A man marries an awful battleaxe and swears he will kill her if she alters his beloved garden.*

NOTES: This show is unavailable for review, no recording known

This script was also produced on 9-20-59

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### **THE LADY IN THE RED HAT (8-30-55) #612**

Author: Cloc Daley

Adaptation by Antony Ellis

Vic Perrin (Mitchell), Virginia Gregg (Jeannie), Larry Thor (Lieutenant Bill Dowell / Narrator), Barney Phillips (Banning), Jack Carol (Waiter / Man 1), Jenny Stevens (Receptionist)

Announcer: Dan Cubberly

*A reporter is tracing a serial killer called "The Thirteenth Apostle."*

NOTE: This script was originally produced on 11-30-50

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### **STRANGE, FOR A KILLER (9-6-55) #613**

Author: Robert Esson

Adaptation by Antony Ellis

John Dehner (Henry Haydon), Tony Barrett (Roy Djaleska), Eve McVeagh (Jessie Haydon), Jack Kruschen (Police Lt. Case), Leonard Weinrib (Buck), Charles Seel (Charlie), Tom McKee (Roeder), Larry Thor (Narrator)

Announcer: Dan Cubberly

*A man returning home is informed that his family is being held hostage by a desperate escaped prisoner.*

NOTE: This script was also produced on 3-15-51 and 6-15-58

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### **A STORY OF POISON (9-13-55) #614**

Author: Antony Ellis

Joe Kearns (Dr. Cream), Paula Winslowe (Mildred), Teeda Purdum (Daisy), Virginia Gregg (Joyce Hamilton), Herb Butterfield (Doctor / Police Sergeant), Ben Wright (Edward Bridgman), Raymond Lawrence (Inspector Waring), Ellen Morgan (Mrs. Minns), Larry Thor (Narrator)

Announcer: Dan Cubberly

*The story of a famous physician/poisoner as told by himself.*

NOTE: This script was originally produced on 9-17-51, as "Neill Cream, Doctor of Poison"



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### **THE STOOL PIGEON (9-20-55) #615**

Author: Antony Ellis

John Dehner (Tibot), Parley Baer (Egzil), Joe Kearns (Makeo), Tony Barrett (Kenno), James Nusser (Godan), Edgar Barrier (The Governor), Larry Thor (Narrator)

Announcer: Dan Cubberly

*A disparate group of prisoners plan to escape from infamous Devil's Island, but one is an informer.*

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### **THE FRIGHTENED CITY (9-27-55) #616**

Authors: Morton Fine & David Friedkin

Harry Bartell (Nick Crawford), Charlotte Lawrence (Jane Stewart), Lou Merrill (Donley / Nolan), Herb Butterfield (Osborne / Voice 2), Vivi Janiss (Mrs. Osborne / Operator), Tom McKee (Tom Ruxton / Voice 1), Larry Thor (Narrator)

*A veteran returns home and learns that his brother was shot dead, but no-one seems willing to talk.*

NOTE: This script was originally produced on 11-10-52

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### **GOODBYE, MISS LIZZIE BORDEN (10-4-55) #617**

Author: Lillian de la Torre

Adaptation by Antony Ellis

Paula Winslowe (Miss Emma), Irene Tedrow (Lizzie Borden), Virginia Gregg (Nellie), Helen Kleeb (Maggie), Leonard Weinrib (Express Man), Richard Beals (Boy), Larry Thor (Narrator)

Announcer: Gil Warren

*A reporter gets too close to the Borden family when investigating a famous hatchet murder.*

NOTE: A variation of this story was originally produced on 1-14-52

Schedule change to Tuesdays, 8:30-9:00 pm ET (30 minute-format resumes)
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### **HEAVENS TO BETSY (10-11-55) #618**

Author: Antony Ellis

Hy Averbach (Henry Doyle), Truda Marson (Betsy Doyle), Richard Beals (Dickie Doyle), John Dehner (Narrator), Howard McNear (Scientist), Vic Perrin (Kathoth [radio villain] / General), Byron Kane (Captain Spaceman [radio hero] / D. A.), Virginia Eiler (Mrs. Gilbert), Barney Phillips (Police Officer), Larry Thor (*Suspense* Narrator)

Announcer: Gil Warren

*A flying saucer lands in a suburban back yard and the Government tries to take over the situation.*

NOTE: This script was originally produced for *ON STAGE* on 3-24-54

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### **LIFE ENDS AT MIDNIGHT (10-18-55) #619**

Author: Robert Tallman

Paula Winslowe (Mrs. Bates), Stacy Harris (Walter Bates), Victor Rodman (Chalmers), Jim Nusser (Plumber / Joe the Newsboy), Bob Easton (Nick), Dick Ryan (Officer Flanagan), Larry Thor (Narrator)

Announcer: Gil Warren

*An elderly woman has a no-good villain of a son who is planning to kill their tenant for his insurance money.*

NOTE: This script was also produced on 2-17-44 & 5-8-48

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**TO NONE A DEADLY DRUG (10-25-55) #620**

Author: Hank Searles

Harry Bartell (Cal Foster), Charlotte Lawrence (Mrs. Smith), Eve McVeagh (Marian Foster), Virginia Eiler (Operator / Waitress), Sammy Ogg (Tippy Smith), Hy Averback (Al the Disc Jockey), Larry Thor (Narrator), Jack Kruschen (Sheriff Gibbs), John Stephenson (First radio announcer / Dr. Peters)

Announcer: Dan Cubberly

*A pharmacist must race against time to locate a travelling family who took a wrong prescription.*

---

**THE MOUNTAIN (11-1-55) #621**

Author: Antony Ellis

Parley Baer (Bob Foster), Ben Wright (John Eldridge), Jim Nusser (Thomas), Herb Ellis (Perucci), Vic Perrin (Gaines), Larry Thor (Narrator), Bill James (Ad-libs)

*Three men attempt to climb the world's tallest mountain but one of them dies, and it appears to be murder.*

NOTES: This script was originally produced on 3-16-53

The extant copy is a low quality aircheck with a clipped closing

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**REPORT ON THE X-915 (11-8-55, PRE-CUT 11-2) #622**

Author: William Froug

Sound: Bill James, Tom Hanley

Engineer: Bob Chadwick

Music: Wilbur Hatch

Stacy Harris (Commander Richards), Jack Kruschen (Admiral Carruthers), Parley Baer (Lt. Commander Linden), Sam Edwards (Sailor / Voice), Herb Ellis (Red Dog One), Tom Hanley & Bill James (Ad-Libs), Larry Thor (Narrator)

Announcer: George Walsh

*An atomic submarine captain suspects sabotage, and nuclear missiles are missing.*

NOTES: There was a last minute title change pencilled on the script. Originally it was simply titled "X-915"

The extant copy is a low quality home aircheck with a clipped closing

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**ONCE A MURDERER (11-15-55) #623**

Author: Antony Ellis

Music: Lucien Morawek

Conductor: Wilbur Hatch

Ben Wright (Thomas Shaw), Betty Harford (Peg), Paula Winslowe (Harriet), Richard Peel (Shinn / Foreman), Joe Kearns (Inspector), Charlie Lung (Cottle / Clerk), Ramsay Hill (Judge File), John Dodsworth (Beckett), Herb Butterfield (Shakeshaft), Byron Kane (Lyons), Larry Thor (Narrator)

*A British laborer avoids prison following a murder charge, and he determines to keep killing.*

NOTE: This script was originally produced, as "The Trials of Thomas Shaw," on 11-5-51

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**CLASSIFIED SECRET (11-22-55)  
#624**

Author: Antony Ellis

Music: Leith Stevens & Lucien Morawek

Conductor: Wilbur Hatch

Parley Baer (Charlie Rader), Howard McNear (Hutchinson), Virginia Eiler (Lisa Nyland), Charlotte Lawrence (Julie Spaulding), Richard Beals (Boy), Charles Seel (Bus Driver), Jim Nusser (F. B. I. Man), Larry Thor (Narrator)

*A cross-country bus has two apparently innocent passengers who are spies planning a terror attack.*

NOTE: This script was originally produced on the *ESCAPE* series (4-12-53)

---

**THIS WILL KILL YOU (11-29-55)  
#625**

Author: Peter Ashley [I. A. Finley, aka Irving Fein]

Sam Edwards (Joe Jordan), Vic Perrin (Charlie Harris), Charles Seel (Marty), Leonard Weinrib (Worker / Warden), Lillian Buyeff (Harriet Slate), Barney Phillips (Sullivan / Judge), Jim Nusser (Priest)

Announcer & Narrator: George Walsh

*When a resentful plant worker falls for a woman his boss attempts to ruin the romance.*

NOTE: This script was originally produced on 8-23-45

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**WHEN THE BOUGH BREAKS (12-6-55) #626**

Author: Sheldon Leonard

Adaptation by Antony Ellis

Music: Rene Garriguenc

Conducted by Wilbur Hatch

Virginia Gregg (Evelyn Stryker), Stacy Harris (Harry Stryker), Dick Beals (Delivery Boy), Joe Kearns (Corcoran), Barney Phillips (Policeman), Larry Thor (Narrator)

Announcer: Gil Warren

*A man marries a woman who was acquitted of killing her rich uncle.*

NOTE: This script was originally produced on 5-3-51

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**A PRESENT FOR BENNY (12-13-55)  
#627**

Author: Damon Runyon

Adaptation by Antony Ellis

Jack Kruschen (Ricky McQueen), Stacy Harris (Swiftly), Eve McVeagh (Millie), Benny Rubin (Artie the Grunt + Machine Gun Benny), Junius Matthews (No-Nose), Joe Kearns (Mr. Minchin), Larry Thor (Narrator)

Announcer: Roy Rowan

*Thieves fall out when a hood steals a truckful of furs from a rival. His Christmas gift will be a bomb in a brightly wrapped parcel.*

---

### **THE CAVE (12-20-55) #628**

Author: Antony Ellis

Richard Beals (Dan as a boy), Billy Chapin (George Fennell), John Dehner (Dan Imbrie, the narrator), Hans Conried (Captain Blackton), Ben Wright (Namby), Larry Dobkin (Shill), Ellen Morgan (Alicia), Raymond Lawrence (Gonfallon), Larry Thor (*Suspense* Narrator)

Announcer: Roy Rowan

*A fantasy about two young boys who find a Princess and a band of 17<sup>th</sup> century pirates alive and well inside a cave.*

NOTES: Originally scheduled was a new production of "T'was the Night Before Christmas"

This script was originally produced on the *ESCAPE* show of 12-29-50, then three more times on the *ROMANCE* series (12-25-52, 12-24-54 and 12-22-56)

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### **THE MYSTERY OF THE MARY CELESTE (12-27-55) #629**

Author: Gil Doud

Music: Lucien Morawek & Rene Garriguenc

Conductor: Wilbur Hatch

John Dehner (Sam Newcombe), Joe Kearns (Police Officer + Captain Briggs), Paul Frees (Hubbard + Passerby), Vic Perrin (Narrator), Ben Wright (Bowal), Joe DuVal (Deckhand), Helen Kleebe (Grace Briggs), Larry Thor (*Suspense* Narrator)

Announcer: Roy Rowan

*A ship is located adrift off the coast of Africa, and while the vessel is in good shape there is not a single person to be found aboard.*

NOTE: This script was originally produced on 6-8-53

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### **\*\* THE EAVESDROPPER (1-3-56) #630**

Author: Don Yerrill

Sound: Bill James, Tom Hanley

Engineer: Bob Chadwick

Music: Rene Garriguenc, conducted by Wilbur Hatch

Lawrence Dobkin (Dave), Charlotte Lawrence (Karen), Herb Ellis (Harris), Parley Baer (Bill), George Walsh (Narrator)

Announcer: Roy Rowan

*A couple kill a blackmailer but the crime was overheard by their plumber.*

NOTE: This show is unavailable for review, no recording known

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### **TWO PLATINUM CAPSULES (1-10-56) #631**

Author: Charles B. Smith

Sound: Tom Hanley, Bill James

Stacy Harris (Narrator), Harry Bartell (George Murphy), Richard Beals (Johnny Murphy), Edgar Barrier (Dr. Karl Hudders), Peter J. Votrian (Pete), Virginia Gregg (May Murphy), Jeanne Bates (Helen Webster), Junius Matthews (Watchman / Mailman), Helen Kleebe (Nurse Burton), Tom Hanley, Bill James (Ad-Libs), Larry Thor (*Suspense* Narrator),

Announcer: George Walsh

*Radioactive capsules are missing from a local hospital, taken by an innocent small boy, and anyone who comes in contact with them could die.*

NOTE: An aircheck copy exists

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**THE END OF THE STRING (1-17-56)  
#632**

Author: David Williams [aka Antony Ellis]

Music: Lucien Morawek & Rene Garriguenc

Stacy Harris (Mark Hendricks), Benny Rubin (Sam Heiler), Mary Jane Croft (Jeanne Cummings), Larry Thor (Officer Cully + Narrator), Jim Nusser (Mailman), Jack Kruschen (The Fence)

Announcer: Roy Rowan

*A thief steals a valuable pearl necklace but no-one will buy the too-hot item, so he tries to return it for reward money.*

NOTE: This script was originally produced on 11-26-51, as "A Misfortune in Pearls"

---

**THE CELLAR DOOR (1-24-56, PRE-CUT) #633**

Author: Bernard Girard

Sound: Bill James, Tom Hanley [on-air credit]

Paula Winslowe (Anne), Parley Baer (Joe), Richard Beals (Sandy), Byron Kane (Ed), Larry Thor (Narrator)

Announcer: Dan Cubberly

*A couple accidentally locked in their cellar have a helpless two-year-old son alone upstairs.*

NOTES: This script was originally produced for the *ON STAGE* broadcast of 10-28-53

This show has a plug for the debut of *THE CBS RADIO WORKSHOP* on 1-27-56

This was Larry Thor's final show as the weekly signature Narrator

---

**ARCTIC RESCUE (1-31-56, PRE-CUT)  
#634**

Author: Gus C. Bayz

Music: Lucien Morawek & Rene Garriguenc

John Stephenson (Gerald Stewart), Herb Butterfield (Captain Jonathan Blake), Norma Varden (Lady Jane Franklin), Lillian Buyeff (Miss Cracroft / Eskimo Woman), Richard Peel (Starkey), John Dodsworth (Halliday), Clayton Post (Patrick Hansen), George Walsh (Crewman / Narrator)

Announcer: Roy Rowan

*A British rescue ship is on an expedition to the frozen Arctic to locate any survivors from a previous exploratory vessel that disappeared.*

NOTE: This script was originally produced on 12-22-52

---

**VARIATIONS ON A THEME (2-7-56, PRE-CUT) #635**

Author: Antony Ellis

Parley Baer (Herman Milford), Paula Winslowe (Jo Milford), Helen Kleebe (Louise), Barbara Fuller (Julie), Sam Edwards (William), George Walsh (Train Conductor / Narrator), Peter Leeds (Driver / Butterfield)

Announcer: Bob Lemond

*A man goes on a fishing trip and takes his wife inside a trunk, tied and gagged, intending to dispose of her body in the lake.*

---

**LISTEN, YOUNG LOVERS (2-14-56)  
#636**

Authors: Morton Fine & David Friedkin,  
from a report by David Camellon

Music: Lucien Morawek & Rene  
Garriguenc

Charlotte Lawrence (Milade), Sam  
Edwards (Jinrich), Joe Kearns (Stefan),  
Edit Angold (Woman), Herb Butterfield  
(Farmer), Lou Merrill (Radek), Joe  
Cranston (American Sergeant), Vic Perrin  
(Narrator), Frank Goss (Radio Free Czech  
voice), James Nusser (Inquisitor), Jack  
Kruschen (German / Corporal), Leonard  
Weinrib (Nolan), George Walsh (*Suspense*  
Narrator)

Announcer: Roy Rowan

*A student and his fiancé decide to escape  
from the oppressive regime in Communist  
Czechoslovakia.*

NOTE: This script was originally  
produced on 5-31-54

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**HOLLYWOOD HOSTAGES (2-21-56)  
#637**

Author: Jerry D. Lewis

Eve McVeagh (Grace), Tom Brown  
(Tommy), Don Diamond (Fred), Frank  
Gerstle (Tex Parker), John Larch (Police  
Officer), George Walsh (Narrator)

*Two movie people scout locations in a  
California ghost town, thinking this is their  
boss's little joke, and thus they don't fear a  
real killer who turns up.*

NOTE: Lucien Morawek returns as  
*SUSPENSE* musical composer for eleven  
weeks

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**THE DIARY OF CAPTAIN SCOTT (2-  
28-56) #638**

Author: Gil Doud

Ben Wright (Captain Robert Scott), Ellen  
Morgan (Kate), Jay Novello (Evans),  
Richard Peel (Wilson), Raymond  
Lawrence (Bowers), Hans Conried (Titus  
Oates), George Walsh (Official / Narrator)

Announcer: Roy Rowan

*An account of the famed Scott of the  
Antarctic and his near-impossible 800-  
mile trek.*

NOTE: This script was originally  
produced on 4-21-52

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**QUIET NIGHT (3-6-56) #639**

Author: Charles B. Smith

Stacy Harris (Joe McGuire), Helen Kleebe  
(Martha), Herb Butterfield (Sheriff George  
Upshaw), Charlotte Lawrence (Mrs.  
Bryar), Tony Barrett (Bert the Deputy),  
William Forrester (Harry Bryar), Joe  
Kearns (Fats Carver), Joe DuVal (Paul  
Jeffers), George Walsh (Radio Voice /  
Narrator)

Announcer: Dan Clobberly

*In the Everglades three convicts find a  
crashed plane with a fortune in money and  
a wounded young survivor.*

---

### **THE GROOM OF THE LADDER (3-13-56) #640**

Author: Antony Ellis

Hans Conried (John Price, aka Jack Ketch), Ben Wright (William Hartley), Raymond Lawrence (Barkeeper), Richard Peel (Harry), Bill James (Ad-Libs), Doris Lloyd (Betty Price), Betty Harford (Elizabeth White), Stan Jones (Thomas Lovelace), George Walsh (Narrator)

Announcer: Roy Rowan

*The story of the brutal 17<sup>th</sup> century English public executioner who was nicknamed Jack Ketch.*

NOTE: This script was originally produced on 9-22-52, as "Jack Ketch"

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### **GALLARDO (3-20-56) #641**

Author: Ann Doud

Vic Perrin (Rudy Gallardo), Tony Barrett (Nicky), Eleanore Tanin (Feathers), Bill Justine (Ringmaster), Virginia Gregg (Princess Olga), George Walsh (Narrator)

Announcer: Roy Rowan

*Two flying trapeze carnival artistes are brothers, and both are in love with the same woman.*

---

### **THE MURDERESS (3-27-56) #642**

Author: Antony Ellis

Cathy Lewis (Marion), John Dehner (Narrator), Peter Leeds (Man in bar), Charlotte Lawrence (Operator), Jack Kruschen (News headline), George Walsh (Radio voice / *SUSPENSE* narrator), Amanda Randolph (Laura), Virginia Gregg (Mother), Byron Kane (Man on phone / Police Officer), Benny Rubin (Benny), Stanley Jones (Max), Dick Beals (Newsboy)

*A woman murders a man and discovers another woman has been found guilty and will be executed.*

NOTE: The circulating copy is an AFRS Aircheck with a clipped ending (the middle announcer is Marvin Miller)

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### **GAME HUNT (4-3-56) #643**

Author: Gil Doud

Raymond Lawrence (Harcross), Joe Kearns (Babson), Jack Kruschen (Charlie), Stacy Harris (Narrator), George Walsh (*Suspense* Narrator)

Announcer: Roy Rowan

*An inexperienced white hunter in Kenya wounds a lion and realizes he is in real danger.*

NOTE: This script was also produced on 3-16-58

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### **THE LONELY HEART (4-10-56) #644**

Author: Antony Ellis

Ben Wright (Chief Inspector Finchley), Joe Kearns (Leach), Peter Gordon (Blaine), Richard Peel (Cade), Ellen Morgan (Ada Willis), Raymond Lawrence (Harris), Herb Butterfield (Commissioner), Stanley Jones (Heath / Bob), George Walsh (Narrator)

Announcer: Roy Rowan

*A new Scotland Yard inspector investigates a cold case about a possible wife murderer.*

NOTE: The circulating copy is an aircheck with a clipped closing

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**THE SEVENTH LETTER (4-17-56)  
#645**

Author: Charles B. Smith

Stacy Harris (Lieutenant Joseph Carter), Parley Baer (Sergeant Sol Morris), John Dehner (Narrator), Vic Perrin (Voice / Larch), George Walsh (*SUSPENSE* Narrator / Johnson), Vivi Janiss (Louise), Richard Beals (Bobby), Paula Winslowe (Margaret Richards), James Nusser (Police Inspector)

Announcer: Roy Rowan

*When a postman is killed a detective believes his wife is involved.*

---

**\* A CASE OF NERVES (4-24-56)  
#646**

Author: Lawrence Goldman

Parley Baer (Albert Baker), Lurene Tuttle, Harry Bartell, Charlotte Lawrence, Virginia Gregg, Herb Butterfield, George Walsh (Narrator)

(Roles: Nellie, Doctor Martin, Nurse Pauline, Landlady, Louise Baker, Dr. Vantour)

*A man fakes an illness in order to get a prescription with which he will kill his wife.*

NOTES: This script was originally produced on 6-1-50

This show is unavailable for review, no recording known

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**THE WAXWORK (5-1-56) #647**

Author: A. M. Burrage

Adaptation by Mel Dinelli

William Conrad (ALL PARTS: Raymond Hewson + Narrator + Wax Museum Manager + Dr. Burdette), George Walsh

(*SUSPENSE* Narrator), Roy Rowan (CBS Announcer)

*The one-man play about a reporter's eerie night spent in a wax museum.*

NOTE: This script was also produced on 3-20-47 and 3-1-59

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**THE PHONES DIE FIRST (5-8-56)  
#648**

Author: Jules Maitland

Harry Bartell (Frank Bruner), Barney Phillips ("Cap" Bradley), William Justine (Sergeant Rowe), Tom McKee (Warden / Johnson), Jack Kruschen (Whitey), Herb Ellis (Reverend), Richard Crenna (Kid), Eleanore Tanin (Ruth Bruner), George Walsh (Narrator)

Announcer: Roy Rowan

*A convict on death row sees visitors, but as time slips away there is still no word of a pardon.*

NOTE: Rene Garriguenc returns as the music composer

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**THE DEATH PARADE (5-15-56) #649**

Author: Shirley Gordon

Adaptation by Antony Ellis

Paula Winslowe (Ellen Johnson), Stacy Harris (Police Lieutenant), Jack Kruschen (Janitor), Frank Gerstle (Sergeant Leonard), Clayton Post (Waiter) George Walsh (Rude customer / Narrator), Virginia Eiler (Sheila Mannix), Howard McNear (Druggist), Helen Klee (Landlady), Jack Carol (Book Salesman)

Announcer: Roy Rowan

*A woman finds a letter on the street and frantically searches for the intended recipient whom she believes will be killed.*



NOTE: This script was originally produced on 2-15-51

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**FRAGILE, CONTENTS: DEATH (5-22-56) #650**

Author: John F. Suter

Victor Perrin (Doug Jordan), Vivi Janiss (Alice Jordan / Operator), Leonard Weinrib (Hartley), Helen Kleebe (Mrs. Bates), Herbert Ellis (Fox), Ted Bliss (Man on Phone), John Larch (Joe Stewart), Charles Seel (Sergeant Rock), Frank Gerstle (Ed Williams), George Walsh (Narrator)

Announcer: Roy Rowan

*A postal inspector learns of a package containing a time-bomb and must trace it in the mail system.*

NOTE: This script was originally produced on 2-1-51

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**THE FLAME (5-29-56) #651**

Author: Richard-George Pedicini

Sound: Bill James, Ray Kemper

Engineer: Bob Chadwick

Tony Barrett (Andy), Alan Reed (Boyajan), Joyce McCluskey (Mary Lee), Jack Kruschen (Needles), Joe DuVal (Man), Herbert Ellis (Shapiro / Man 2), George Walsh (Narrator)

Announcer: Roy Rowan

*An arsonist helps a neighbor and sees an opportunity for another fire.*

NOTE: This script was originally produced on 10-15-51

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**THE TWELFTH ROSE (6-5-56) #652**

Author: Charles B. Smith

Music: Lucien Morawek

Conductor: Leith Stevens

Paula Winslowe (Helen Craig), Stacy Harris (Narrator), Virginia Gregg (Mrs. Williams), Don Diamond (Pete, the Detective), Eleanor Tanin (Nancy), Herbert Ellis (Lou, the Detective / Lt. Carver), Miriam Wolfe (Peggy / Janet), Jack Carol (Dr. Michaels the Vet), Fred MacKaye (Carl Owens aka Bill Johnson), George Walsh (*Suspense* Narrator)

Announcer: Dan Clobberly

*A florist is selling a dozen roses to a killer who leaves a single rose with each of his victims.*

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**A MATTER OF TIMING (6-12-56) #653**

Author: Ross Murray

Bill Conrad (The Killer), Stacy Harris (Carl Longman), Parley Baer (Mark Collender), Virginia Gregg (Frances), Victor Rodman (Joshua Parker), Melitza Milo (Miss Bunner), Sam Edwards (First car thief), Ralph Reed (Second car thief), Robert Miller (Man), George Walsh (Narrator)

Announcer: Roy Rowan

*A man hires an assassin to kill a friend, and the hit man begins questioning his client.*

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**A SLEEPING DRAFT (6-19-56) #654**

Author: Weston Martyr

Adaptation by Antony Ellis

Ben Wright (Captain Godfrey), Abraham Sofaer (Jonathan Abbey), Hans Conried (Finch), Eric Snowdon (Darling, the Mate), Charlie Lung (Wilkes), Stan Jones (The Bos'n), Raymond Lawrence (Convict), George Walsh (Narrator)

Announcer: Roy Rowan

*The captain of a ship transporting convicts in the 1800s makes a deal with the leader of the vicious band when he realizes they are armed.*

NOTE: This script was produced twice on the *ESCAPE* series (10-1-50 and 4-5-53)

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**THE TREASURE CHEST OF DON JOSE (6-26-56, PRE-CUT: 6-11) #655**

Author: William N. Robson

Sound: Tom Hanley, Gus Bayz

Engineer: Bob Chadwick

Edgar Barrier (Gasper), Tony Barrett (Steve + Pedro), Charles Seel (Coffin), Joseph Kearns (Tris), Joe Cranston (Jeff), George Walsh (Narrator)

Roy Rowan (Announcer)

*A man seeks a valuable pirates' treasure chest and finds a corpse.*

NOTES: This script was also produced on 2-4-52 & 10-12-58

The available copy has a clipped closing

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**THE MUSIC LOVERS (7-3-56) #656**

Author: Antony Ellis

Ben Wright (Chief Inspector Hendon), Hans Conried (Harold Gibson), Richard Peel (Inspector Malleson), Bill Shepherd

(Detective Walsh), Irene Tedrow (Jenny Addison), Raymond Lawrence (Flint), Stan Jones (Leslie Addison), George Walsh (Narrator)

Announcer: Roy Rowan

*A couple of refined chamber music appreciators are discovered to be murderers and traitors.*

Schedule change to Wednesdays, 8:30-9:00 pm ET
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**WANT AD (7-11-56) #657**

Author: E. Jack Neuman

Music conductor: Leith Stevens

Stacy Harris (Ralph Vernon), Mary Jane Croft (Wilma), Paula Winslowe (Liz Phelps), Joe Kearns (Frank Phelps), Virginia Gregg (Frances), Jack Moyses (Police Officer), Lou Krugman (Walter), George Walsh (Narrator)

Announcer: Roy Rowan

*A con man uses classified ads to seek out helpless women who are home alone.*

NOTE: This script was originally produced on 1-25-54

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**THE MAN WHO THREW ACID (7-18-56) #658**

Author: Antony Ellis

Sound: Tom Hanley & Bill James

Engineer: James Murphy

William Conrad (Narrator), Harry Bartell (Assemblyman), Tony Barrett (Steve), John Dehner (Boss), Larry Dobkin (Man 1), James Nusser (Man 2), Stacy Harris (Man 3), Charlotte Lawrence (Girl), Clayton Post (Harry), Lou Krugman (Lou), Vivi Janiss (Wife), Don Diamond (Cigar),

George Walsh (*Suspense* Narrator), Roy Rowan (Announcer)

*A young hood tries to curry favour with the mob by disfiguring a prominent citizen.*

NOTE: The circulating copy is an aircheck with a clipped closing

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### **THE TRAMP (7-25-56) #659**

Author: Antony Ellis (aka S. A. Bolt)

Ben Wright (Arthur Jennings), Stan Jones (Seddon), Joe Kearns (Captain Blee), Charlie Lung (Winkle Jones), Raymond Lawrence (Bert Goudy), Lou Krugman (Austin), Bill Shepherd (Communications man), George Walsh (Narrator)

Announcer: Roy Rowan

*A newly hired first officer boards a tramp steamer intending to kill the Captain and take over.*

NOTES: This script was originally produced on the *ESCAPE* series (3-1-53)

Rene Garriguenc's score is an adaptation of Leith Stevens' original for *ESCAPE*

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### **\*\* MASSACRE AT THE LITTLE BIG HORN (8-1-56) #660**

Author: Elmer Parsons

Adaptation by Charles B. Smith

Sound: Tom Hanley, Bill James

Engineer: James Murphy

Music: Leith Stevens

Stacy Harris (Narrator 2), Alan Reed (Kanipe), John Stephenson (Custer), Larry Thor (Keogh), Helen KleeB (Martha), Ralph Moody (Lord), Don Diamond (Watson / Thompson), Shep Menken (Warren), Harry Bartell (Boston / Captain), John W. James (Reno), George

Walsh (Narrator 1), Roy Rowan (Announcer)

*A dramatization of the infamous mission led by General Custer of the 7<sup>th</sup> U.S. Cavalry.*

NOTE: This show is unavailable for review, no recording known

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### **DOUBLE IDENTITY (8-8-56) #661**

Author: Alan Botzer

Vic Perrin (George Lockman, aka Robert Gelder), Bill Conrad (J. T. Kraft), Paula Winslowe (Mrs. Lee), Charlotte Lawrence (Stewardess), Paul Dubov (Henry / Clerk), Joe DuVal (Baker), Don Diamond (Airline Clerk), Bill Lally (Luggage Clerk), Bill Justine (Security), George Walsh (Narrator)

Announcer: Roy Rowan

*An embezzler discovers his boss will be on the same flight, and his luggage, filled with \$50,000 of the firm's money, was sent to another city.*

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### **A FRIEND TO ALEXANDER (8-15-56) #662**

Author: James Thurber

Adaptation by Fran Van Hartesveldt

Music composed & conducted by Fred Steiner

John Dehner (Harry Andrews), Paula Winslowe (Bess Andrews), Ben Wright (Aaron Burr), Charlotte Lawrence (Woman), Victor Rodman (Dr. Fox), Miriam Wolfe (Alice), Joe Kearns (Bob Crowley), Larry Thor (Policeman), George Walsh (Narrator)

Announcer: Gil Warren

*A man has recurring dreams of the famous Alexander Hamilton-Aaron Burr duel.*

NOTE: This script was originally  
produced on 8-3-43 and 6-15-44

**SUSPENSE** was pre-empted on 8-22-  
56 (for the Republican National  
Convention)

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**HOLD-UP (8-29-56) #663**

Author: Jules Maitland

Music composed & conducted by Wilbur  
Hatch

Joe Kearns (Tim Chase), Alice Backes  
(Hazel), Leonard Weinrib (Holdup Man),  
Shep Menken (Police Officer / Jerry),  
Larry Thor (Captain Runyon), Byron Kane  
(Reporter), Frank Gerstle (2<sup>nd</sup> reporter),  
Sam Edwards (Customer), George Walsh  
(Narrator)

Announcer: Gil Warren

*A storekeeper seems a little too eager to  
defend his store, having killed robbers  
more than once.*

---

**THE SECURITY AGENT (9-5-56)  
#664**

Author: Antony Ellis

Music by Jerry Goldsmith

Parley Baer (Frederick Zilanko), Howard  
McNear (Josef Ostrowski), John Dehner  
(Narrator), Herb Butterfield (Corshon),  
Harry Bartell (Vlad Jaleski), Larry Thor  
(*Suspense* Narrator)

Announcer: Roy Rowan

*Two Polish men intend to hijack a flight  
but a security guard is aboard.*

NOTE: Larry Thor returns to the show as  
the signature Narrator for his first  
appearance since 1-24-56, subbing this one  
time for George Walsh

**SUSPENSE** was pre-empted on 9-12  
& 9-19-56

Schedule change to Tuesdays, 8:30-  
8:55 pm ET

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**A CASE OF IDENTITY (9-25-56) #665**

Author: Elmer Parsons

Adaptation by Charles B. Smith

Music: Leith Stevens?

Parley Baer (Harry Burton), Michael Ann  
Barrett (Edna), Joe Kearns (Wallace /  
Sergeant Barton), Charles Seel (Croyd /  
Hotel clerk), Shep Menken (Gas Station  
man), Larry Thor (Lieutenant Johnson),  
George Walsh (Radio Voice / Narrator)

*A couple fake the husband's death to  
collect on insurance, but the wife wants all  
the money.*

NOTE: An edited AFRS copy survives

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**WAITING (10-2-56, PRE-CUT) #666**

Author: Antony Ellis

Music: Lucien Morawek

Conducted by Wilbur Hatch

Vivi Janiss (Harriet), Paula Winslowe  
(Mrs. Martinson), Charlotte Lawrence  
(Aline), Thomas Hanley (Telegram Boy),  
George Walsh (Radio Voice / Narrator)

Announcer: Roy Rowan

*A man awaits execution while three women  
in his life reflect on their roles in his fate.*

NOTE: This script was originally  
produced on 2-22-55

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## **THE DIGGER (10-9-56, PRE-CUT) #667**

Author: Charles B. Smith

Music composed and conducted by Leith Stevens

Torin Thatcher (Roger Fabian aka The Digger), Parley Baer (Sandy McGregor), Herb Butterfield (Narrator), Ramsay Hill (Carton), Stan Jones (Henry Clark), Charlie Lung (Winky), Lillian Buyeff (Tisha), George Walsh (*Suspense* Narrator)

Announcer: Gil Warren

*In the African jungle a man intends to empty a mine shaft but the natives won't help. A well-known, hard-drinking digger is sought.*

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## **THE [STRANGE] PROPHECY OF BERTHA ABBOTT (10-16-56, PRE-CUT) #668**

Author: Ann Doud

Music composed and conducted by Jerry Goldsmith

Sam Edwards (Ernie), Richard Crenna (Whitey), Stacy Harris (Narrator), Paula Winslowe (Bertha Abbott), George Walsh (*Suspense* Narrator), Jack Kruschen (Joe Beshke), Richard Beals (Ernie as child), Peggy Webber (Whitey as child), Bill James

Announcer: Gil Warren

*Two boys are cursed by a local witch after stealing fruit from her apple tree.*

NOTES: This was the last of 93 shows produced and directed by Antony Ellis, who was dismissed following a disagreement with Bill Froug, CBS programming V-P for the West Coast.

Starting next week, William N. Robson takes over as producer-director, with a new twist: per Froug's suggestion, he also introduces each show in a hosting role, billed as "the master of mystery and adventure." Robson writes each of these scene setting teasers, and his gravel voice with its no-nonsense delivery becomes the signature feature of the following 147 editions.

The budget remains tight as radio entertainment begins its inexorable march to extinction. The show continues to purchase new scripts but there will be many remakes of earlier productions.

With the show now touted as being fully produced on tape, Bill Robson is still able to entice various well-known personalities willing to appear for union scale. Several movie names retained an affection for the diminishing radio medium, and the shows sound different from the preceding two years under Tony Ellis, which relied totally on anonymous radio artists.

Although not as prestigious as the golden era of Bill Spier, this substantial run of shows under Robson brings back a touch of the old big-name star system to *SUSPENSE*.

Music is composed by several familiar CBS musicians, and some freelancers, until 3-17-57, after which further budget cuts meant all the shows would rely on library mood music cues, resulting in a somewhat "canned" sound to the series.

George Walsh remains the Signature "Narrator," and is now able to pre-record his opening descriptions in batches of three or more shows, to be edited in later.

# **SUSPENSE,** **THE ROBSON YEARS,** **OCTOBER 1956 TO** **AUGUST 1959**

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## **THE DOLL (10-23-56) #669**

Author: Peggy Chantler

Music: Lyn Murray

PATTY McCORMACK (Valerie),  
Richard Beals (Chris), Mary Jane Croft  
(Paula), Shep Menken (George), Dick  
LeGrand (Old fisherman / Doctor), Luis  
Van Rooten (Popcorn vendor /  
Policeman), George Walsh (Narrator)

*A troubled young girl is given a doll with a  
wind-up heart. She believes that when the  
doll's heart stops, so will hers.*

---

## **RED CLOUD MESA (10-30-56) #670**

Author: William Derry Eastlake [*Colliers*  
magazine story "Where the Warriors  
Crossed"]

Adaptation by William N. Robson

REED HADLEY (Captain Bowman), Jay  
Novello (Four Tongues), Daws Butler  
(Rabbit Stockings), Tony Barrett (Arturo),  
Dick LeGrande (Yellowstone), George  
Walsh (Narrator)

*A trader is visited by an Indian who  
escaped from an asylum, intending to die  
on the open range.*

NOTES: The circulating copy is an AFRS  
aircheck (low quality audio with a clipped  
closing)

This script was also produced on 8-2-59

Schedule change to Sunday afternoons, 4:30-5:00 pm ET in a 30- minute format
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## **THE SIGNALMAN (11-4-56) #671**

Author: Charles Dickens

Adaptation by Irving Reis

Music conducted by Wilbur Hatch

Sound by Ray Kemper & Gus Bayz

Engineer: Doc Bennett

SARAH CHURCHILL (Amy Sears), Ben  
Wright (The Signalman), George Walsh  
(Narrator)

CBS Announcer: Dan Cubberly

*A ghost story set in a remote English  
railway station.*

NOTES: This script was also produced on  
3-23-53 and 2-15-59

This evening, The <b>CBS RADIO WORKSHOP</b> airs "Joe Miller Joke Book," produced by Bill Robson
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## **THREE SKELETON KEY (11-11-56) #672**

Author: George G. Toudouze

Adaptation by James Poe

Music composed and conducted by Leith  
Stevens

Sound: Cliff Thorsness, Gus Bayz & Ray  
Kemper

VINCENT PRICE (Gene), John Dehner  
(August), Ben Wright (Louie), George  
Walsh (Narrator)

*Three lighthouse workers must escape  
from a swarm of gigantic, ravenous rats  
when a ship hits a reef.*

NOTES: This famous script was originally  
produced three times on *ESCAPE* (11-15-  
49, 3-17-50 [both by Bill Robson] and 8-9-  
53), and once more on *SUSPENSE* (10-19-  
58)

This evening *The CBS RADIO WORKSHOP* airs "Report on the Weans," adapted, produced & directed by Bill Robson

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**THE LONG NIGHT (11-18-56) #673**

Author: Lowell D. Blanton (in *Atlantic Monthly*)

Adaptation by Sam Pierce

Music: Paul Barron

Sound: Ray Kemper, Bill James

FRANK LOVEJOY (Ken), Stacy Harris (Mike), Byron Kane (Beechcraft 457), Jack Kruschen (TWA 701), Cort Falkenberg (Delta), Sam Pierce (Charlie, the voice of Rockford Radio), George Walsh (Narrator)

*Air traffic officials attempt to help an amateur pilot who has run out of fuel and has limited knowledge of the controls.*

NOTE: This script was also produced on 7-13-58.

The *SUSPENSE* show of the same title, broadcast on 1-10-60, is a different story.

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**THE MAN WHO STOLE THE BIBLE (11-25-56) #674**

Authors: John Bagni & Gwen Bagni Gielgud

Music: Leith Stevens

Sond: Tom Hanley, Bill James

JOHN LUND (Cummings), June Foray (Operator / Guest / Cleaning woman / French nun voice disguise), Joe de Santis (John Stang), Jay Novello (The Devil), Joe Kearns (The Clown), Larry Thor (Officer Culpepper), Harry Bartell (Desk Clerk / Police Sergeant), Jack Moyles (Cigar Clerk), George Walsh (Narrator)

Announcer: Roy Rowan

*During the New Orleans Mardi Gras a man is unwittingly embroiled in a criminal enterprise.*

NOTES: This script was originally produced twice by Bill Robson for the *ESCAPE* series (5-5-50 and 8-30-51)

This evening, *The CBS RADIO WORKSHOP* airs "King of the Cats," written, produced & directed by Bill Robson

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**THE RIM OF TERROR (12-2-56) #675**

Author: Hildegard Teilhet

Adaptation by William N. Robson

Music by Lyn Murray

Sound: Ray Kemper & Gus Bayz

BARBARA WHITING (Elizabeth Whitehill), Ben Wright (Alex Peck), Joe de Santis (State Trooper / Mr. Smith), Byron Kane (Judge / Veterinarian), Junius Matthews (Sergeant Holding), Tony Barrett (Police Officer / Tatum), Bill James (Torkil the dog), George Walsh (Narrator)

Announcer: Roy Rowan

*A woman driving cross-country picks up a man in Nevada who is a spy, being sought by three others disguised as policemen.*

NOTE: This script was originally produced by Bill Robson for the *ESCAPE* series (5-12-50)



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## **AN OCCURRENCE AT OWL CREEK BRIDGE (12-9-56) #676**

Author: Ambrose Bierce

Adaptation by William N. Robson

Original Music: Cy Feuer

Conducted by Wilbur Hatch

Sound: Tom Hanley, Bill James

VICTOR JORY (Paton Farquar / Narrator 1), Larry Thor (Narrator 2), Roy Glenn (Jethro), Jack Kruschen (Sergeant), Lou Merrill (Captain), Chet Stratton (Lieutenant Saltonstall aka "The Corporal"), Julie Bennett (Paton's Wife), George Walsh (*Suspense* Narrator)

Announcer: Roy Rowan

*A man's last moments just before death by hanging, during the Civil War.*

NOTES: This script was originally produced by Bill Robson for the *ESCAPE* series (12-10-47), and twice more on *SUSPENSE* (12-15-57 and 7-19-59).

This evening, <i>The CBS RADIO WORKSHOP</i> airs "I Was the Duke," produced by Bill Robson
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## **EYEWITNESS (12-16-56) #677**

Author: William N. Robson

Music by Jerry Goldsmith

HOWARD DUFF (Kelly), Joe Kearns (J. Conrad Alan), John Dehner (Warden), Lou Merrill (Captain Wolfe), Jack Kruschen (Big Joe), Cort Falkenberg (Tony), Barney Phillips (Limpy), Tony Barrett (Feeney), Dick LeGrand (Pop), G. Stanley Jones (Wiley), George Walsh (Narrator)

Announcer: Roy Rowan

*A reporter is held hostage in a prison as rioting inmates overtake a building.*

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## **BACK FOR CHRISTMAS (12-23-56) #678**

Author: John Collier

Adaptation by Robert Tallman

Music: Lucien Morawek

Conductor: Wilbur Hatch

HERBERT MARSHALL (Herbert Carpenter), Irene Tedrow (Hermione), Ellen Morgan (Marion), Paula Winslowe (Mrs. Goodenough / Stewardess), Ben Wright (Freddie Sinclair / Philip / Desk clerk), Jack Moyles (Bellboy / Airport P.A.), George Walsh (Narrator)

Announcer: Roy Rowan

*A Botany professor murders his nagging wife and buries her in his basement "Devil's Garden."*

NOTES: This script was originally produced on 12-23-43 & again on 12-23-48.

It was also produced for the *ESCAPE* series by Bill Robson (12-24-47)

Tallman's original script was altered for this broadcast. There is no adaptation credit but it is likely Robson made the changes.

The next show was to be "Russian New Year's" but it didn't air until 1-13-57

<i>SUSPENSE</i> was pre-empted on 12-30-56
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**A SHIPMENT OF MUTE FATE (1-6-57) #679**

Author: Martin Storm

Adaptation by Les Crutchfield (new revisions by Bill Robson)

Original score: Cy Feuer

Conducted by Wilbur Hatch

JACK KELLY (Chris Warner), Helen Kleebe (Mother Willis), Herb Butterfield (Captain Wood), Tony Barrett (Mate), Ben Wright (Bowman the steward), Helene Burke (Woman), Byron Kane (Man), Bill James? (Clara the Cat), George Walsh (Narrator)

*A deadly poisonous bushmaster snake gets loose aboard an ocean liner.*

NOTE: This script was originally produced three times on *ESCAPE*: 10-15-47 [by Bill Robson], 3-28-48 & 3-13-49. There was a second production on *SUSPENSE* (4-3-60)

The circulating copy is an AFRTS aircheck with a clipped closing

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**RUSSIAN NEW YEAR'S (1-13-57, PRE-CUT: 1-9) #680**

Author: Alfredo Oriane

Adaptation by Silvia Richards

Sound: Tom Hanley, Bill James

Engineer: Doc Bennett

Music: Leith Stevens

Conducted by Wilbur Hatch

HELMUT DANTINE (Boris), Lili Valentyn (Olga Karolska), Charles Hradilac (Prince Ogarev), Fritz Feld (Serges Lemm), Jack Kruschen (Guard), George Walsh (Narrator)

Announcer: Roy Rowan

*Russian traitors plan to assassinate the Czar and other Royal Court officials during a New Year celebration.*

NOTES: The circulating copy is an aircheck with a clipped closing

This evening <i>The CBS RADIO WORKSHOP</i> airs "No Time for Heartaches," produced by Bill Robson
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**THE SECOND-CLASS PASSENGER (1-20-57) #681**

Author: Perceval Gibbon

Adaptation by William N. Robson

Original score: Cy Feuer

Conducted by Wilbur Hatch

STERLING HOLLOWAY (Ronald A. Dawson), Hans Conried (Egon), Byron Kane (Twitchell), Tracey Roberts (Miss Patterson), Nan Boardman (Marlene), Jack Moyle (Jones), Jay Novello (Lazarus / Police Official), John Biedermeyer [**aka William Conrad**] (Fat Man), George Walsh (Narrator)

*A meek cruise passenger in port Mozambique is caught up in intrigue, murder and romance.*

NOTES: This script was originally produced three times on the *ESCAPE* series (1-7-48, 1-10-48 [by Bill Robson] & 7-28-49)

The circulating copy is an AFRTS pressing with Marvin Miller as end announcer

This evening, <i>The CBS RADIO WORKSHOP</i> airs "Fire at Malibu," written, produced & directed by Bill Robson
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**FREEDOM THIS WAY (1-27-57) #682**

Authors: Erno Verebes, Max Colpet,  
William N. Robson

Music: Leith Stevens

HANS CONRIED (Geza Bartok, aka Bela Hojos), Margie Liszt (Margit), Melitza Milo (Stewardess / Anna), Norma Jean Nilsson (Kati), Joe de Santis (U. S. Official), Charles Hradilac (Dr. Fekette), Jack Kruschen (Slavic Captain), Fritz Feld (Vita), George Walsh (Narrator)

Announcer: Roy Rowan

*A Hungarian emigrating to America is questioned about being with the wife and daughter of another man.*

NOTE: The original title was "Flight to the West"

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**FRANKIE AND JOHNNY (2-3-57) #683**

Authors: Morton Fine & David Friedkin

Music: Leith Stevens

MARGARET WHITING (Frankie), Shep Menken (Johnny), Amanda Randolph (Miss Willie), Roy Glenn (Jellycake), Joe de Santis (Man / Cop), Jay Novello (Cabbie), Corny Anderson (Bartender), Daws Butler (Tissot), Shirley Mitchell (Nellie Bly / Girl), George Walsh (Narrator)

Announcer: Roy Rowan

*An adaptation of the famous folk-song about a woman scorned and her resultant fury.*

NOTE: This script was originally produced on 5-5-52

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**DOOR OF GOLD (2-10-57, PRE-CUT: 2-8) #684**

Author: E. Scott Flohr

Sound: Bill James, Vic Livotti

Engineer: Doc Bennett

Music: Amarigo Marino & Orchestra

MYRON McCORMICK (Ward), Shirley Mitchell (Janice), Jay Novello (Huan), Ramsay Hill (Dr. Clayton), George Walsh (Narrator)

Announcer: Hugh Douglas

*An archaeologist and his wife are trapped in an Incan temple and must find a way out before asphyxiation.*

NOTES: This show's author was serving time in San Quentin for forgery.

This evening, <i>The CBS RADIO WORKSHOP</i> airs "1,489 Words," produced by Bill Robson
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**MURDER AND AUNT DELIA (2-17-57) #685**

Author: Lou Houston

Music: Lucien Morawek

Conducted by Wilbur Hatch

GLENN FORD (Dort Sharples aka John Braley), Ellen Morgan (Rena), Lillian Buyeff (Delia), Shep Menken (Braley), Herb Butterfield (Bryce Crittenden), George Walsh (Narrator)

*A hitchhiker murders the driver who picks him up and assumes his identity in hope of coming into a million dollar fortune.\_*

NOTES: This script was originally produced on 11-10-49 (as "Murder of Aunt Delia")

The circulating copy is an AFRTS recording

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**TWO HUNDRED AND TWENTY SEVEN MINUTES OF HATE (2-24-57) #686**

Author: Sam Pierce

CHARLES McGRAW (Lt. Ted McDougall), Larry Thor (Bill Rand), Shirley Mitchell (Lily Regan), Bob Miller (Frank), Byron Kane (Colonel), Paul Dubov (Airforce Tower Voice), Daws Butler (Van Alden / Man), Chet Stratton (Chuck Regan), George Walsh (Narrator)

*A vengeful man with no flight experience steals a plane and buzzes a town.*

NOTE: The circulating copy is an aircheck with a clipped closing

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**PRESENT TENSE (3-3-57) #687**

Author: James Poe

Original music score: Amarigo Marino

VINCENT PRICE (Roger), Ellen Morgan (Mary), Daws Butler (Cab Driver / Doctor / Padre), Peg La Centra (Lucita), Jack Kruschen (Detective on train / Prison Guard), Joe de Santis (Train caller / Fred Sneed), Charles Hradilac (Pollan), Sam Pierce (Ambulance Driver / Funeral Parlour man), George Walsh (Narrator)

Announcer: Roy Rowan

*Inside the mind of a condemned killer fleeing from a train wreck.*

NOTES: This script was originally produced by Bill Robson for the *ESCAPE* series (1-31-50)

This evening, *The CBS RADIO WORKSHOP* airs "The Ballad of the Iron Horse," produced & directed by Bill Robson

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**THE PERALTA MAP (3-10-57) #688**

Author: Charles B. Smith

Music: Jerry Goldsmith

RAYMOND BURR (Henry Cracker), Stacy Harris (Willis), Junius Matthews (Lowney), George Walsh (Narrator)

*A hunt for the lost Conquistador treasure in gold and jewels.*

Circulating copy has a clipped ending

NOTES: The end cast announcement gives the roles played by each actor

This evening, *The CBS Radio Workshop* airs "Air Raid," produced & directed by Bill Robson

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**THE OUTER LIMIT (3-17-57) #689**

Author: Graham Doar

Adaptation by Morton Fine & David Friedkin

Music: Lucien Morawek

Conducted by Wilbur Hatch

Sound: Tom Hanley, Bill James

FRANK LOVEJOY (Colonel "Hank" Henry), Stacy Harris (Major Bill Westfall), Barney Phillips (Joe), Jack Kruschen (Pete), Larry Thor (Hargrove), Sam Pierce (Sergeant / Tower), Jay Novello (Crew Chief / Guardian Zeglon), Hans Conried (Alien Zzyl), Joe Kearns (Countdown / Major Donaldson), George Walsh (Narrator)

Announcer: George Walsh

*A pilot from a temporarily lost rocket launch returns in an emotional state, following an apparent alien contact.*

NOTES: This script was originally produced by Bill Robson for the *ESCAPE* series (2-7-50). The dramatic sections from

that recording were used on an audition record for a sci-fi series to be called *BEYOND THIS WORLD* on 2-23-50. The script was first produced for *SUSPENSE* on 2-15-54

This was the final *SUSPENSE* show with music played by the CBS studio orchestra

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### **SHOOTING STAR (3-24-57) #690**

Author: Ruth Bourne

JUNE LOCKHART (Gay Lansing), Ellen Morgan (Secretary / Iris), Joe de Santis (J. D. Zimmerman), Hans Conried (Director), Dick Crenna (Delivery Boy), Shep Menken (Dave / Benny), George Walsh (Narrator)

*A movie producer must inform an egotistical actress that she is not good enough for a part.*

NOTES: This script was originally produced on 11-25-54

This was the first *SUSPENSE* show with music cues assembled from a recorded tracking library, sourced from Europe. And from here George Walsh pre-recorded his narrator announcements in batches, for later use in future shows ("And now....")

This is possibly the first show where Robson's intro includes the phrase, "which starts in exactly one minute."

The circulating copy is an amateur edited aircheck off CBS affiliate WGBI, Scranton

This evening, <i>The CBS RADIO WORKSHOP</i> airs "Harmonica Solo," produced & directed by Bill Robson
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### **A GOOD NEIGHBOR (3-31-57) #691**

Author: David Riehl

JEFF CHANDLER (Andrew Burt), Virginia Gregg (Mrs. Poe), George Walsh (Narrator)

*A jewel thief hiding in a mountain home is no match for his elderly neighbor.*

NOTE: The circulating copy is an AFRS recording which has been edited

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### **THE VANISHING LADY (4-7-57) #692**

Author: Alexander Woolcott

Adaptation by William N. Robson

VANESSA BROWN (Cynthia Winship), Diana Bourbon (Operator / Doctor's Wife), Virginia Gregg (Mrs. Winship), Ben Wright (Bruce Stanley), Ramsay Hill (Jacques the coachman / Waiter), John Dehner (Bellboy / Doctor), Edgar Barrier (Hotel clerk), George Walsh (Narrator) [An unbilled announcer is the framing voice for this story]

*A woman is the victim of a gigantic hoax during the Paris Exposition between the World Wars.*

NOTES: This script was originally produced three times on the *ESCAPE* series (2-1-48, 2-7-48, 1-10-50), each time by Bill Robson.

The circulating copy is an AFRS recording

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**THOU SHALT NOT COMMIT (4-14-57) #693**

Author: Richard Wiel

VICTOR JORY (Dr. Carl Blair), Ellen Morgan (Lisa), Ben Wright (Loweli), Joe de Santis (Captain Terry Burke), Andy Iona (Toteri), George Walsh (Narrator)

Announcer: Hugh Douglas

*A restless woman is tempted to leave the island where her husband has a medical practice.*

NOTE: The circulating copy is an edited aircheck off CBS affiliate station WGBI, Scranton

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**CHICKEN FEED (4-21-57) #694**

Author: Lawrence Goldman

LLOYD BRIDGES (Ralph Clark), Amzie Strickland (Waitress / Mary), Betty Groverly (Operator), Ted de Corsia (Officer Brady), Lou Krugman (Pete), Jack Kruschen (Slim), Charlie Lung (Sergeant Ross), Lou Merrill (Philips), Dick LeGrand (Jerry Diamond), George Walsh (Narrator)

*A lawyer arrested as a robbery suspect calls his wife, but following their recent argument, she won't alibi him.*

NOTES: This script was also produced on 9-8-49 and 10-7-54

The circulating copy is an AFRTS recording

This evening, *The CBS RADIO WORKSHOP* airs "The Son of Man," produced & directed by Bill Robson

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**ESCAPE TO DEATH (4-28-57, PRE-CUT: 4-17) #695**

Author: E. Scott Flohr

Sound: Tom Hanley & Bill James

Engineer: Doc Bennett

Music: Amerigo Marino

FRANCIS LEDERER (Goellner), Norma Jean Nilsson (Girl / Daughter), Margie Liszt (Zanova), Charles Hradilac (Kogos), Jack Kruschen (Chekov / Soviet / Austrian), Dick Beals (Boy), Fritz Feld (Interrogator / Guard), Paul Dubov (Soldier), Ted de Corsia (Molnar), George Walsh (Narrator), Bud Sewall (CBS Announcer)

*A Hungarian doctor under Communist rule must kill a woman freedom fighter who has information for the U.N.*

---

**CELEBRATION (5-5-57) #696**

Authors: Arnold Marquis & Phyllis Parker

JOY LaFLEUR (Emily Ward), Irene Tedrow (Mrs. Bertha Hallick), Shep Menken (Todd Ward), Joe de Santis (Man / Waiter / Doctor), Jack Moyles (Parking attendant / Police Sergeant), George Walsh (Narrator)

Announcer: Roy Rowan

*A man celebrates his wedding anniversary by taking his mentally ill wife to dinner, planning a double suicide afterwards.*

NOTE: This script was originally produced on 9-23-48

This evening, *The CBS RADIO WORKSHOP* airs "Nightmare," co-produced by Bill Robson

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**TARAWA WAS TOUGH (5-12-57)  
#697**

Author: William N. Robson

JOHN LUND (Narration), Ellen Morgan (Tokyo Rose), Jack Kruschen (Moishe), Dick Crenna (Oatie), Joe de Santis (Les), Robert Easton (Shorty), John Dehner (Commander), Larry Thor (Officer), Lou Krugman (Ship's P.A.), George Walsh (*Suspense* Narrator)

*Marine troops in World War Two prepare to take Tarawa, despite the radio taunts of Tokyo Rose.*

NOTES: The circulating copy is from an AFRTS recording

This grimly realistic show harks back to Robson's pet project, his World War Two CBS series *The Man Behind the Gun*.

---

**DEATH AND MISS TURNER (5-19-57, PRE-CUT: 5-16) #698**

Author: William Spier

Sound: Tom Hanley & Bill James

Engineer: Doc Bennett

Music: Takeshi Shindo

AGNES MOOREHEAD (Rachel Turner), Irene Tedrow (Miss Briggs), Raymond Lawrence (Mr. Putney), Richard Peel (The Man), John Hoyt (Grice), George Walsh (Narrator), Roy Rowan (CBS Announcer)

*An amnesiac woman is encouraged to regain her memory via her passion for painting.*

NOTE: This script was originally produced on 11-17-52

This evening, *The CBS RADIO WORKSHOP* airs "Heaven is in the Sky," produced & directed by Bill Robson

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**THE BIG DAY (5-26-57) #699**

Author: Sam Pierce

JOHN McINTIRE (Sam Corder), Jeanette Nolan (Mrs. Corder), Joe de Santis (Albert / Sergeant Walsh), William Kenneally (Radio newscaster), Henry Blair (Junior), Sam Pierce ("Sam Pierce" the race announcer), Daws Butler (Officer Hanson / Small Town Cop)

George Walsh (Narrator)

*An eccentric mechanic & car buff races his Stanley Steamer in the Indy 500.*

---

**CROSSING PARIS (6-2-57) #700**

Author: Marcel Ayme

Adaptation by John Meston

HANS CONRIED (Pierre Martin), John Dehner (Grandgil the painter), Joe de Santis (Jambier), Ted de Corsia (Drunk / Proprietor), Paul Dubov (Policeman), George Walsh (Narrator)

Announcer: Roy Rowan

*In World War Two Paris, underground meat smugglers hire a stranger who appears to be a crazed alcoholic.*

NOTES: This script was first produced on the *ESCAPE* series (8-25-50)

The circulating copy is likely the first network recording with multi-sponsor commercials extant.

This evening *The CBS RADIO WORKSHOP* airs "Epitaphs: Spoon River Anthology," produced by Bill Robson



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**THE GREEN AND GOLD STRING  
(6-9-57) #701**

Author: Phillip MacDonald

Adaptation by Silvia Richards

VINCENT PRICE (Dr. Alkazar), Jeanette Nolan (Gloria), Irene Tedrow (Lily Morton), Lou Krugman (Avie), Byron Kane (Edward), Ben Wright (Clinton DeVriess), George Walsh (Narrator)

Announcer: Hugh Douglas

*A phony mystic attempts to con the family of a recently deceased customer.*

---

**TRIAL BY JURY (6-16-57, PRE-CUT:  
6-6) #702**

Author: Robert L. Richards

Sound: Tom Hanley & Bill James

Engineer: Doc Bennett

Music: Don Ray

NANCY KELLY (Hilda), Kenny Delmar (Tommy), Parley Baer (Judge), Shirley Mitchell (Foreman of Jury), Larry Dobkin (First News / Sheriff / Frank), Byron Kane (Sandy / Second News), Jerry Hausner (Harry / Third News), George Walsh (Narrator), Roy Rowan (CBS Announcer)

*A public defender gets her client acquitted and then she learns he was actually guilty.*

NOTES: This script was originally produced on 3-27-47

The author was still blacklisted and didn't receive on-air credit.

This evening, *The CBS Radio Workshop* airs "Housing Problem," produced & directed by Bill Robson

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**A LOAD OF DYNAMITE (6-23-57)  
#703**

Author: Richard Wiel

BARTLETT ROBINSON (Dave King), Ellen Morgan (Terri), Paul Dubov (Hal King), Barney Phillips (Police Officer), George Walsh (Narrator)

*A jealous brother decides to take his sibling's happy life away.*

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**THE YELLOW WALLPAPER  
(6-30-57) #704**

Author: Charlotte Perkins Gilman

Adaptation by Silvia Richards

AGNES MOOREHEAD (Pet), Ann Hunter (Jenny), Joe de Santis (John), George Walsh (Narrator)

*A woman starts to go crazy, seeing menacing patterns in the wallpaper, and her husband and servant might be responsible.*

NOTE: This script was originally produced on 7-29-48

This evening, *The CBS Radio Workshop* airs "Gettysburg," produced & directed by Bill Robson

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**ALIBI (7-7-57) #705**

Author: Lawrence Goldman

EVERETT SLOANE (Mark), Peter Leeds (Henchman), Ted de Corsia (Barney), Eddie Marr (Lee / Harry the drunk), Sandra Gould (Dolly), Jack Moyses (Police Officer), Jack Kruschen (Bartender), George Walsh (Narrator)

*A man hires an assassin but just before the deed is carried out, his alibi can't be found.*

NOTE: The circulating copy is an AFRTS recording

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**FLOOD ON THE GOODWINS  
(7-14-57) #706**

Author: David Devine

Adaptation by James Poe

HERBERT MARSHALL (Dundas), Hans Conried (Nazi), Ellen Morgan (Mary), Raymond Lawrence (Uncle Mac), Richard Peel (Mate), George Walsh (Narrator)

Announcer: Roy Rowan

*In wartime England two men in a river launch face a deadly Nazi who commandeers the ship.*

NOTE: This script was produced twice on the *ESCAPE* series (11-1-49 [by Bill Robson] & 7-24-54)

This evening, <i>The CBS RADIO WORKSHOP</i> airs "Silent Witness," produced & directed by Bill Robson
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**AMERICA'S BOYFRIEND (7-21-57)  
#707**

Author: Sidney Renthal

MERCEDES McCAMBRIDGE (Jean), Norma Jean Nilsson (Lumpy), Joan Banks (Alice), Dick Crenna (Dickie Keith), Jack Kruschen (Charley / Officer), Byron Kane (Maurice), Alan Reed (Harry Landlin), George Walsh (Narrator)

Announcer: Roy Rowan

*The only person who can prove a movie idol's innocence of murder is a two-year-old witness.*

---

**MURDER ON MIKE (7-28-57, PRE-CUT: 7-13) #708**

Author: S. Lee Pogostin

Adaptation by David Ellis

Sound: Tom Hanley & Bill James

Engineer: Bob Chadwick

Music: Don Ray

RAYMOND BURR (Chris), Alan Reed (Ken), Byron Kane (George / Hank), Norma Jean Nilsson (Doris), Ann Diamond (Lois / Harriet), George Walsh (Narrator)

Announcer: Roy Rowan

*A writer of radio mysteries is dismissed by his loathed producer, so he plans a script featuring an actual on-air murder.*

NOTES: This script was originally produced on 1-13-51, as "The Twist is Murder" [unaired] and again on 12-3-51, as "A Murderous Revision"

This version was announced the week before as "The Twist is Murder"

This evening, <i>The CBS RADIO WORKSHOP</i> airs "Never Bet the Devil Your Head," produced by Bill Robson
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**FLESH PEDDLER (8-4-57) #709**

Author: Robert Juhren

DeFORREST KELLY (Pete Harris), D. J. Thompson (Bernice), Gretchen Connie (Gloria), Daws Butler (Barker / Arthur), Howard McNear (Alexander Wilson), Dick Beals (The Dummy), George Walsh (Narrator)

Announcers: Roy Rowan, Hugh Douglas (closing)



*A ventriloquist in a small-time circus is offered fame and fortune but for some reason he declines.*

---

**PIGEON IN THE CAGE (8-11-57)  
#710**

Author: Morton Fine & David Friedkin

LLOYD BRIDGES (Gerald Brewer),  
Ellen Morgan (Janice), Joe de Santis  
(Harry), George Walsh (Narrator)

*A man witnesses a murder but gets stuck in  
an elevator, and the killers know he's  
there.*

NOTES: This script was originally  
produced on 5-25-53

This evening, <i>The CBS RADIO WORKSHOP</i> airs "Malahini Magic," produced by Bill Robson
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**PEANUT BRITTLE (8-18-57) #711**

Author: Jules Maitland

SKIP HOMEIER (Eddie Kipp), John  
Dehner (Sky Grogan), Peter Leeds  
(Tommy Marino), Lou Krugman (Sky's  
messenger), Lou Merrill (Chaplain /  
Captain), Barney Phillips (Convict at  
Chaplain's office / Sergeant), George  
Walsh (Narrator)

*A new inmate learns about the politics and  
dangers of surviving prison life.*

NOTE: The circulating copy is an AFRTS  
recording

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**LEININGEN VERSUS THE ANTS  
(8-25-57) #712**

Author: Carl Stephenson

Adaptation by Robert Ryf

WILLIAM CONRAD (Leiningen), Ben  
Wright (Commissioner), Lou Merrill  
(Blauss the foreman / Worker), Donald  
Buka (Tadejo), Don Diamond (Piccarol),  
George Walsh (Narrator)

Announcer: Roy Rowan

*In an Amazon jungle plantation a  
swarming army of killer ants must be  
stopped by the eccentric owner.*

NOTES: This script was originally  
produced four times on the *ESCAPE* series  
(1-14-48, 1-17-48 [both by Bill Robson],  
5-23-48 & 8-4-49). There was a second  
production on *Suspense* (11-29-59)

This evening, <i>The CBS RADIO WORKSHOP</i> airs "Sweet Cherries in Charleston," produced & directed by Bill Robson
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**MAN FROM TOMORROW (9-1-57)  
#713**

Author: Irving Reis

FRANK LOVEJOY (Dix Kentman) &  
JOAN BANKS [LOVEJOY] (Dr. Jessica  
Frost), John Hoyt (Professor Baird), Peter  
Leeds (Randy), Norm Alden (Mr. Logan /  
P. A. Voice), George Walsh (Narrator)

*A pilot is hired to participate in an  
experiment in high endurance.*

NOTE: This script was originally  
produced on the *ESCAPE* series (8-23-53)

---

**OLD ARMY BUDDY (9-8-57) #714**

Author: William Kenneally

Adaptation by William N. Robson

VICTOR JORY (Fred Haskell), Ellen Morgan (Anne), Paul Frees (Harry, alias Jeb Tolliver), Larry Thor (Jerry Davis, the narrator), George Walsh (*Suspense Narrator*)

*A famous and pompous correspondent is surprised when his wife insists on a divorce.*

NOTES: This script was originally produced on the *ROMANCE* series (1-21-56)

The circulating copy is an edited aircheck with a clipped closing

This evening, *The CBS RADIO WORKSHOP* airs "People Are No Good," written, produced & directed by Bill Robson

---

**NIGHT ON RED MOUNTAIN (9-15-57) #715**

Author: William N. Robson

RICHARD CRENNNA (Walt, alias Joey Parino), Ann Diamond (Sally), Norma Jean Nilsson (Operator), Joe De Santis (Big Pete Parelli / Dad), Peter Leeds (Bat), Barney Phillips (Sergeant Toohey), Sam Pierce (Highway Patrol radio voice), George Walsh (Narrator)

*A reformed bad guy runs into a former crony and realizes his old gang will come calling soon.*

NOTES: This script was originally produced on 3-8-55 (as "Nobody Ever Quits"), and again on 1-11-59 & 11-20-60

The circulating copy is from an AFRTS recording

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**SHADOW ON THE WALL (9-22-57) #716**

Author: Robert Juhren

JACKIE KELK (Henry Harper), Jeanette Nolan (Mrs. Hilmas / Airport P. A.), John Hoyt (Roger Harper), Frank McDonald (Airport Customer / Detective Allan), Charles Lung (Airline Clerk), George Walsh (Narrator)

*A brother kills his sibling but is constantly haunted by the dead man's shadow*

NOTES: The circulating copy is from an AFRTS recording.

This evening *THE CBS RADIO WORKSHOP* airs its final show, "Young Man Axelbrod" which is adapted, produced & directed by Bill Robson

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**VAMP TILL DEAD (9-29-57) #717**

Authors: E. Jack Neuman & John Michael Hayes

VANESSA BROWN (Amy), Jeanette Nolan (Jenny), Ben Wright (Gentry), Norm Alden (Al), George Walsh (Narrator)

*A woman takes a secretarial job with a writer who murdered a woman years ago.*

NOTE: This script was originally produced on 1-11-51

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**MISFIRE (10-6-57, PRE-CUT: 9-26)  
#718**

Author: Tom Hanley

Sound: Tom Hanley & Bill James

Engineer: Bob Chadwick

Music: Ken Hodge

JACK CARSON (Narrator), John Dehner (Dr. Leigh Thurston), Barney Phillips (John Grant), Sam Pierce (Count-down Voice / I.N.S. reporter), Eddie Firestone (Frank Butler), Norm Alden (Winship), George Walsh (*Suspense* Narrator)

Announcer: Roy Rowan

*A crucial A-Bomb test fails, and scientists must gingerly approach the rocket and discover the fault.*

NOTE: A second version of this script was prepared and recorded in 1958, but apparently didn't air (*see the entry for 9-28-58*)

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**THE WELL-DRESSED CORPSE  
(10-13-57) #719**

Authors: E. Jack Neuman & John Michael Hayes

MARGARET WHITING (Ruth Franklin), Howard McNear (Percy Hamilton / Neighbor), John Dehner (Roy Mason), Jack Moyles (Eddie), Jack Kruschen (Police Captain), Shirley Mitchell (Petey Wright / Woman in Alley), Lou Merrill (Lieutenant Rourke / Tony the bartender), Larry Dobkin (Police Officer at end), Lou Krugman (Eddie's pal), George Walsh (Narrator)

*A spurned society woman shoots the man who turned her down, then looks to kill his fiancé.*

NOTES: This script was originally produced on 1-18-51

The circulating copy is an AFRTS recording.

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**SORRY, WRONG NUMBER  
(10-20-57) #720**

Author: Lucille Fletcher

AGNES MOOREHEAD (Mrs. Stevenson), Jeanette Nolan (Chief Operator), Virginia Gregg (Operator / Information), Ellen Morgan (Henchley Hospital), Joe de Santis (George), Byron Kane (Boss / Western Union), Norm Alden (Sergeant Martin), George Walsh (Narrator)

*The famous story of Mrs. Stevenson overhearing a murder plot is here presented for its seventh of eight performances.*

NOTE: This famous script was originally produced on 5-25-43, and again on 8-21-43, 2-24-44, 9-6-45, 11-18-48, 9-15-52 & 2-14-60 (which was a tape replay of this 1957 production)

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**THE COUNTRY OF THE BLIND  
(10-27-57) #721**

Author: H. G. Wells

Adaptation by John Dunkel

RAYMOND BURR (Juan Nunez), Peggy Webber (Medina-Sarote), Ben Wright (Cartwright), Ed Jerome (Pedro / Dr. Yacob), Edgar Barrier (Correa), Jay Novello (Elder), George Walsh (Narrator)

*A man tells of how he escaped a secret Andes valley in which a community of unsighted people dwells.*

NOTE: This script was produced three times on the *ESCAPE* series (11-26-47 [by Bill Robson], 6-27-48 & 3-20-49), and once more on *SUSPENSE* (12-13-59)

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### **FIRING RUN (11-3-57) #722**

Author: Michael Frost

RUTH HUSSEY (Sue Stacey), Richard Beals (Hap / Petey), Dawn Bender (Cathy), Eddie Firestone (Mark Stacey), Sam Pierce (Ground Control / Lieutenant), Ken Christy (Sergeant Crenshaw), George Walsh (Narrator)

*A test pilot is flying a plane carrying missiles and he learns his children are aboard a drone target.*

NOTE: The circulating copy is from an AFRTS recording.

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### **THE PIT AND THE PENDULUM (11-10-57) #723**

Author: Edgar Allan Poe

Adaptation by John Dickson Carr

VINCENT PRICE (Jean Dálbret), Ellen Morgan (Beatrix Valdez), Jay Novello (Pedro Espila, the Grand Inquisitor), Ben Wright (Clerk), John Hoyt (Antonio, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Inquisitor), George Walsh (Narrator)

*During the Spanish Inquisition, a man is found guilty and is sentenced to a gruesome death by torture.*

NOTE: This script was also produced on 1-12-43, 11-28-47 and 6-7-59

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### **THE CITY THAT WAS (11-17-57) #724**

Author: Richard Wiel

FRANCIS X. BUSHMAN (Narrator), Norma Everhart (Rina Chalfont), Chet Stratton (Sergei / Alec), Ben Wright (Tony Kendall), Jack Kruschen (Fritz / Sam), Joe de Santis (Bart Mallory / "Kesselring voice"), Norm Alden (Sergeant Marty Kaye), George Walsh (*Suspense* Narrator)

*Set during early silent era Hollywood, the story of an actor who commits murder.*

NOTES: This script was also produced on 10-30-60.

The 1957 circulating copy is from an AFRTS recording

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### **THE STAR OF THESSALY (11-24-57) #725**

Author: William N. Robson

RAY NOBLE (Captain Anthony Cholmondeley-Smythe), Ben Wright (Christopher Raxon / Bullneck), Lillian Buyeff (Kula), Byron Kane (Heppolite), Jay Novello (Socrates Melas), Abraham Sofaer (Sir Eustace Twining), George Walsh (Narrator)

*A man takes a job as bodyguard for an old man with a priceless jewel.*

NOTE: The circulating copy is from an AFRTS recording.

The script was reused/adapted from the series *MODERN ADVENTURES OF CASANOVA* which Robson produced for Mutual while on forced hiatus from CBS.

---

### **JET STREAM (12-1-57) #726**

Author: Michael Frost

FRANK LOVEJOY (John Martin), Ellen Morgan (Vicky / Timmy the baby), Virginia Gregg (Millie Martin), James McCallion (Bud Lynch), Harry Bartell (Johnson), Norm Alden (Sergeant / Lt. Berman), Sam Pierce (Control Voice / Denver voice), George Walsh (Narrator)

*A pilot flies a super speed jet from New York to California just to murder his wife.*

---

**SPEED TRAP (12-8-57) #727**

Author: Henry Searles

EVERETT SLOANE (Art), Bill Conrad (Craig Hollister), Ellen Morgan (Debbie), Jack Kruschen (Doctor), Larry Dobkin (Joe the Despatcher / Sergeant), George Walsh (Narrator)

*Two policemen chase a speeding driver down a dangerous road in the rain.*

NOTE: The script was originally produced on 4-19-55

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**(AN) OCCURRENCE AT OWL CREEK BRIDGE (12-15-57) #728**

Author: Ambrose Bierce

Adaptation by William N. Robson

JOSEPH COTTEN (Paton Farquahar), Bill Conrad (Narrator), Ellen Morgan (Paton's Wife), Harry Bartell (Corporal, alias Lt. Saltonstall), Lou Merrill (Captain), Jack Kruschen (Sergeant), Roy Glenn (Jethro), George Walsh (*Suspense* Narrator)

*The final moments in the mind of a man who is being hung by Union soldiers during the Civil War.*

NOTE: This script was originally produced by Bill Robson for the *ESCAPE* series (12-10-47). For *SUSPENSE* it was originally produced on 12-9-56 & again on 7-19-59, each time by Robson.

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**DOG STAR (12-22-57) #729**

Author: Michael Frost

EVELYN RUDIE (Julie Roberts), Dick Beals (Timmy), Shirley Mitchell (Anne / Martha the Nurse), Shep Menken (Ray / Second Russian), Jack Kruschen (Lt. Swenson), Sam Pierce (Announcer / Peters), Ben Wright (Professor Goodwin), Lou Krugman (Driver / First Russian),

Norm Alden (Major), George Walsh (Narrator)

*A girl is denied her wish for a pet dog by her father until a satellite crashes nearby and she finds a puppy inside.*

---

**NEVER STEAL A BUTCHER'S WIFE (12-29-57) #730**

Author: James Poe

Sound: Tom Hanley & Bill James

Engineer: Doc Bennett

Music: Ken Hodge

WILLIAM CONRAD (Harry), Cathy Lewis (Mary), Joe de Santis (Nick), Lou Merrill (Kraus), George Walsh (Narrator)

Announcer: Roy Rowan

*A man gets involved with the unfaithful wife of a powerful market butcher.*

NOTE: This script was originally produced on 2-9-50 (as "The Butcher's Wife") and again on 8-10-54

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**A WEEK AGO, WEDNESDAY (1-5-58) #731**

Author: Winifred Wolfe

HILLARY BROOKE (Maude Haskin), D. J. Thompson (Woman in Apartment 3B), John Dehner (Harry Haskin), Dick Beals (Young Boy), George Walsh (Narrator)

*A woman begins dreaming that her husband will stab her.*

NOTES: This script was originally produced on 11-29-45

The circulating copy is an AFRS aircheck with a clipped closing

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**THE ISLAND (1-12-58) #732**

Author: Millard Kaufman

JOHN LUND (Lacey), Joe de Santis (Tabori), Lillian Buyeff (Taki), Hans Conried (Padre), George Walsh (Narrator)

*Two soldiers in World War II meet a mystery woman on an island, and one falls hard...but he can never be with her.*

NOTE: This script was performed twice on *ESCAPE* (7-11-51 and 3-8-53)

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**THE CROWDED VOID (1-19-58) #733**

Author: Michael Frost

BARTLETT ROBINSON (Captain Sam Bradley), Ellen Morgan (Jeannie / Sally), Shirley Mitchell (Mrs. Gordon), Dee Tatum (Airport Announcer), John Dehner (Mel), Barney Phillips (Doctor / Air Traffic Voice), Sam Pierce (Despatch Voice / Approach Control Voice), George Walsh (Narrator)

*A pilot must stay aloft during a terrible storm, knowing his wife will be going into labor.*

---

**NINETEEN DEACON STREET (1-26-58) #734**

Authors: Robert Webster Light & Larry Marcus

JEROME THOR (Maury Schwartz), Paula Winslowe (Landlady), Sydna Scott (Lavern), Jack Kruschen (Little Joe), Ted de Corsia (Jasper Florenz), Norm Alden (Officer), George Walsh (Narrator)

*A salesman rents a room in which a girl once lived, and he hears her voice.*

NOTE: This script was originally produced on 11-22-45

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**THE SILVER FRAME (2-2-58) #735**

Author: William Spier

CHARLES McGRAW (Steve Gates), Tracey Roberts (Silver Sparks), Jerome Thor (Farley, the D. A.), Chester Stratton (Lester Malvin), John Hoyt (L. B. Rawson), Daws Butler (Milton / First Detective), Jack Kruschen (Second Detective), George Walsh (Narrator)

*An innocent man is released from jail and goes after the D.A. who sent him down.*

NOTE: This script was originally produced on Bill Spier's program *THE PHILIP MORRIS PLAYHOUSE* (11-5-48)

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**THE LONG SHOT (2-9-58) #736**

Author: Harold Swanton

HERBERT MARSHALL (Kelly Raymond), Florence Walcott (Marguerite Stoddard), Ben Wright (Walker Hendricks), Joe de Santis (Tommy DeWitt / Lieutenant), Norm Alden (Highway Patrol Officer), George Walsh (Narrator)

*An Englishman in America is hired as travelling companion for a fellow countryman who has \$200,000 in an envelope.*

NOTE: This script was originally produced on 1-31-46

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**ONE CHEF, WELL DONE (2-16-58) #737**

Author: Fran Van Hartesveldt

MAURICE MARSAC (Henri), Sandra Gould (Shirley), Ben Wright (Francois), Joe de Santis (Driver / Hotelier / Mortician), Jack Moyses (Smith / 2<sup>nd</sup> Mortician), George Walsh (Narrator)

*Two French master chefs are hired to create cuisine in a restaurant but they become bitter rivals.*

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### **FIVE BUCK TIP (2-23-58) #738**

Author: Harold Swanton

KARL SWENSON (Mark Heston & Tommy Jardine), Cathy Lewis (Jacqui Cavanagh), Henry Blair (Willie the Hatcheck clerk), Jack Kruschen (Louis the Guard), Jerome Thor (Mike the "Padre"), Ken Christy (Warden), George Walsh (Narrator)

*A man visits his criminal twin brother who is to be executed, but he is overpowered and his clothes are stolen to make it appear as if one brother is actually the other.*

NOTES: This script was first done on *Inner Sanctum Mysteries* (as "The Deadly Double")

Swenson plays dual roles of twin brothers

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### **NEVER FOLLOW A BANJO ACT (3-2-58) #739**

Author: James Poe

MARGARET WHITING (Rosie Jones), Eddie Marr (Benny / Croupier), Larry Dobkin (Ray Kram), Shep Menken (Terry Dane), Jack Moyles (Earl White / Drunk), George Walsh (Narrator)

*A show biz veteran is hired to train a young talent who turns out to be an armed psychopath.*

NOTE: This script was originally produced on 2-1-54

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### **THE CHAIN (3-9-58) #740**

Author: Joel Murcott

AGNES MOOREHEAD (Leonora), John McIntire (George Carpenter), Ellen Morgan (Abby Reynolds / Operator), Jay Novello (Peter Kerchevski), Herb Ellis (Bert Reynolds), Larry Dobkin (Lt. Marsh), George Walsh (Narrator)

*A nasty woman sends a chain letter that results in a woman's death and the breakup of her own marriage.*

NOTE: This script was originally produced on 4-27-50

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### **GAME HUNT (3-16-58) #741**

Author: Gil Doud

EVERETT SLOANE (Geoffrey Harcross), Larry Dobkin (Howard Babson), Roy Glenn (Charlie), George Walsh (Narrator)

*An inexperienced hunter in Kenya wounds a vicious lion.*

NOTE: This script was originally produced on 4-3-56

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### **AFFAIR AT LOVELAND PASS (3-23-58) #742**

Author: William N. Robson

VANESSA BROWN (Polly Weatherby), Jim Ameche (Stan Torrance), Barney Phillips (Killer), James Nusser (Sheriff / Radio voice), George Walsh (Narrator)

*A couple must take shelter in a storm and the woman fears the man with her might be a killer she heard about on the radio.*

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**THE SISTERS (3-30-58, PRE-CUT:  
3-19) #743**

Author: George Wells

Sound: Tom Hanley & Bill James

Engineer: Pat Walsh

Music: Joel Davis

FRANCES FARMER (Lydia), CATHY LEWIS (Ellie), Bill Quinn (Jones), Joe Kearns (Mortician), George Walsh (Narrator), Roy Rowan (CBS Announcer).

*A woman who lives with her mentally unstable sister orders a coffin.*

NOTE: This script was also produced on 2-3-44 and 12-9-48

The circulating copy is an aircheck with a clipped closing

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**JUST ONE HAPPY LITTLE FAMILY  
(4-6-58) #744**

Author: John Thornton

RAY NOBLE (Dunkel), LEE PATRICK (Victoria), Shirley Mitchell (Goldenlink), David Sheiner (Aldergeiss the lawyer), George Walsh (Narrator)

*A light-hearted macabre tale of two people who marry, she a poison murderer, he a butcher-killer.*

NOTE: The circulating copy is an AFRTS recording, with a clipped ending

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**WIN, PLACE OR DIE (4-13-58) #745**

Author: Joel Murcott

FRANK LOVEJOY (Joe Harper), Joan Banks (Rita), Ellen Morgan (Jeannie), Joe de Santis (Mr. Randolph), Bill Quinn (Sid Kurtz), Jack Kruschen (Charlie / Police Lieutenant), George Walsh (Narrator)

*A gambler gets deeper into trouble when, after embezzling from his place of work, he turns to murder.*

---

**ALIBI ME (4-20-58) #746**

Author: Therd Jeffre

Adaptation by Walter Brown Newman

STAN FREBERG (Georgie), Cathy Lewis (Joanie), Geraldine Wall (Mrs. Ettinger), Vic Perrin (Julius), Jerome Thor (Lt. Larkin), Jack Kruschen (Leo the bartender), Eddie Marr (Tim), Richard Beals (Delivery Boy), George Walsh (Narrator)

*A punk kills a rival and suddenly realizes he needs an alibi.*

NOTE: This script was originally produced on 1-4-51

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**WINNER LOSE ALL (4-27-58) #747**

Author: Ross Murray

JOHN LUND (Bob Richards), Rita Lynn (Annie), Lou Merrill (Walter Carlin / Travel Agent / Bus Agent), Eddie Marr (Stoney / Cab Driver), Jack Kruschen (Bookkeeper / Thug), Sam Pierce (Wally Campbell / Airline PA), George Walsh (Narrator)

*An opportunist agrees to split the profits from a big win with a gambling boss, but then he skips with all the money*



---

**SUNDOWN (5-4-58) #748**

Author: Joel Murcott

JACKIE KELK (Ben Ford), Luis Van Rooten (Dan, the storyteller), Charles Seel (Sam / Blacksmith), Vic Perrin (Ben's Father / Cowpuncher), William Quinn (Kirby Hunsacker), Jack Kruschen (Bartender), George Walsh (Narrator)

*A young man is taken by a horse thief and grows up with a burning desire for revenge and the honed skills of a gunslinger.*

NOTE: This script was first produced by Bill Robson for the *ESCAPE* series, 6-23-50

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**SUBWAY STOP (5-11-58) #749**

Author: Arthur Zigoras

SKIP HOMEIER (Storyteller), Shirley Mitchell (Woman / Jimmy's girlfriend), Virginia Gregg (Subway clerk), Barney Phillips (John), Bill Quinn, Joe de Santis, Tommy Cook (Goober), Jackie Kelk (Din), Norm Alden (Jimmy), George Walsh (Narrator)

*A man is fatally beaten by a gang of hoods, but his begging for help in the subway has people thinking he's just another bum.*

---

**ZERO HOUR (5-18-58) #750**

Author: Ray Bradbury

Adaptation by Antony Ellis

EVELYN RUDIE (Mink Morris), Lillian Buyeff (Mary Morris), Ellen Morgan (Helen), Karl Swenson (Narrator), Vic Perrin (Henry Morris), George Walsh (*Suspense* Narrator), Roy Rowan (CBS announcer)

*Children worldwide are playing a strange game called Invasion, at first dismissed by their parents as just a pastime.*

NOTES: This script was originally produced on the *ESCAPE* series (10-4-53). For *SUSPENSE* it was also produced on 4-5-55 & 1-3-60

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**LIKE, MAN, SOMEBODY DIG ME (5-25-58) #751**

Author: George Bamber

TED [ELLIOTT] REID ("Tennis Shoe"), Lillian Buyeff (Mary / Woman at Funeral Parlor), Bill Quinn (Walter), Daws Butler ("The Cat" / Bronson / Mortician), Barney Phillips (George the first cop), Jack Moyles (Charley the second cop), Sam Pierce (Radio voice), Norm Alden (Old Timer), George Walsh (Narrator)

*An indolent beatnik is mistaken for a killer and must quickly grow up.*

NOTE: This script was also produced on 8-16-59

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**RAVE NOTICE (6-1-58) #752**

Author: James Poe

VINCENT PRICE (Sam), Peter Leeds (Lawyer), Lou Merrill (Norman the director), Barney Phillips (Head Doctor), Jack Kruschen (Gun Shop clerk / Murph the 1<sup>st</sup> Guard), James Nusser (Mahoney the 2<sup>nd</sup> guard), Jerome Thor (Doctor), George Walsh (Narrator)

CBS Announcer: Roy Rowan

*A vengeful actor shoots his director and must give a great new performance by feigning insanity.*

NOTE: This script was also produced on 10-12-50 and 10-21-54

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### **THE INVISIBLE APE (6-8-58) #753**

Author: Michael Frost

LARRY PARKS (Joe Taylor), Ellen Morgan (Janice), Larry Dobkin (Dr. Bernstein), Sam Pierce (News Voice), Byron Kane (Jamison / Man in bar), Jack Moyles (Pat the bartender), George Walsh (Narrator)

*A lab technician learns the secret of becoming invisible then finds he can't be visible again.*

---

### **STRANGE, FOR A KILLER (6-15-58) #754**

Author: Robert Esson

Adaptation by Antony Ellis

DAN O'HERLIHY (Henry Haydon), Joan Banks (Jessie Haydon), Jack Moyles (Police Sergeant), Ted de Corsia (Roy Djaleska), George Walsh (Narrator)

*A man learns that his family are being held hostage by a desperate ex-con.*

NOTE: This script was also produced on 3-15-51 and 9-6-55

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### **THE LAST KILOMETER (6-22-58) #755**

Author: Michael Frost

MARSHA HUNT (Susan), Ann Hunter (Marie), John Dehner (Rene), Ben Wright (Johnny / Starter / Old Man), George Walsh (Narrator)

*A man intends to take his fiance on a cross-country race, and she learns that his late wife died in a car accident on this same day years before.*

NOTE: This show celebrated the 16<sup>th</sup> anniversary of *SUSPENSE*

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### **RAIN TONIGHT (6-29-58) #756**

Author: Jules Maitland

JOHN McINTIRE (Ben Reeves), Barney Phillips (Pop), Tommy Cook (Dominick), Norm Alden, Jim Nusser (Cell Guard), Jay Novello (Father O'Day), Jack Moyles (Guard at Gate), George Walsh (Narrator)

*A convict serving life decides to break out of prison by disguising himself as the chaplain during a rainstorm.*

---

### **RUB DOWN, AND OUT (7-6-58) #757**

Author: Richard-George Pedicini

LLOYD BRIDGES (Zack Weston), Bill Conrad (Big Willy), Tracey Roberts (Joyce), Eddie Marr (Frankie/ Henry / Lieutenant), Jack Kruschen (Oblo / Benny), George Walsh (Narrator)

*Two men open a health studio and one becomes involved with the wife of a big-time hood.*

NOTES: This script was originally produced on 5-24-51 (as "Fresh Air, Sunshine and Murder")

The AFRTS disc has edge damage and is missing a couple of small portions

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### **THE LONG NIGHT (7-13-58) #758**

Author: Lowell B. Blanton

Adaptation by Sam Pierce

FRANK LOVEJOY (Ken), Barney Phillips (Beechcraft 457), Peter Leeds (Delta Voice), Sam Pierce (Charlie, the voice of Rockford Radio), Eddie Firestone (TWA 701), George Walsh (Narrator)

*Air traffic must try to assist an amateur flier who is low on fuel, in poor weather, and completely inexperienced.*

NOTE: This script was also produced on 11-18-56 and 1-10-60

---

**IT'S ALL IN YOUR MIND (7-20-58) #759**

Authors: Morris Lee Green & William Walker

BERRY KROEGER (Jack Benton), Larry Dobkin (Howard Laramie), Shirley Mitchell (Anne), Mary Alice Rivard (Woman's Voice), Lou Krugman (Man's Voice / Driver), Sam Pierce (Newsreader / Joe), George Walsh (Narrator)

*A scientist uses a friend as a guinea pig for his new telepathic pill.*

---

**THE STEEL RIVER PRISON BREAK (7-27-58, PRE-CUT: 7-16) #760**

Author: William N. Robson

Sound: Bill James & Tom Hanley

Engineer: Doc Bennett

Music: Joel Davis

BARTLETT ROBINSON (Bragg), Sam Pierce (Radio Voice 1 / Guard 3), Norm Alden (Runt), Jerry Hausner (Moish), Eddie Firestone (Radio Voice 2 / Guard 2), Barney Phillips (Guard), Jack Moyles (Con / Boatman), George Walsh (Narrator), Roy Rowan (CBS Announcer)

*Three prisoners plan a break in flood conditions.*

NOTE: This script was originally produced on 9-3-51

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**THE VOICE OF COMPANY A (8-3-58) #761**

Author: Michael Frost

EVERETT SLOANE (The Doctor), Lillian Buyeff (Caroline / Miss Chang), John Dehner (Colonel), Barney Phillips (Botchner), Jack Kruschen (Ternov /

Guard), Sam Pierce (Radio Voice / Countdown), George Walsh (Narrator)

*An Army man is ordered by the Government to launch a worldwide satellite that threatens constant war, then he is visited by a ghost.*

NOTE: The circulating copy is an aircheck (commercials are deleted).

---

**THE DIARY OF SOPHRONIA WINTERS (8-10-58) #762**

Author: Lucille Fletcher

MERCEDES McCAMBRIDGE (Sophronia), Karl Swenson (Hiram), Ellen Morgan (Nurse), George Walsh (Narrator)

*A naive woman marries a man in haste and discovers he is crazy, and has her imprisoned in a deserted hotel.*

NOTE: This script was also produced on 4-27-43 and 8-17-44

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**THE BRIDGE (8-17-58) #763**

Authors: Alan Botzer & William N. Robson

CATHY LEWIS (Liz), Virginia Gregg (Edie Elwood), Jerry Hausner (George), Bill Quinn (Max), George Walsh (Narrator)

*A speeding car ends up precariously hanging from a bridge with imminent danger from any sudden movement.*

---

**REMEMBER ME? (8-24-58) #764**

Author: Gus C. Bayz

JACKIE COOPER (Harry Norris), Sandra Gould (Ruth Shaw), Barney Phillips (Liebowitz / Police Officer), Norm Alden (Jimmy), George Walsh (Narrator)

*A punk shoots a storeowner and a woman witness realizes she had a crush on him years ago.*

NOTE: This script was also produced on 4-7-52 and 5-3-55

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**THE WHOLE TOWN'S SLEEPING  
(8-31-58) #765**

Author: Ray Bradbury

Adaptation by Antony Ellis

AGNES MOOREHEAD (Lavinia Nebbs), William Conrad (Narrator / Killer), Lurene Tuttle (Francine), Paula Winslowe (Mrs. Hanlon), Barney Phillips (Police Lieutenant), Charlie Lung (Druggist / Kennedy), George Walsh (*Suspense* Narrator)

*An elderly woman is not afraid to walk the streets even though a strangler called "The Lonely One" is on the loose.*

NOTE: This script was originally produced on 6-14-55

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**THE MAN WHO WON THE WAR  
(9-7-58, PRE-CUT: 9-5-58) #766**

Author: Robert Buckner

Adaptation by William N. Robson

Sound: Tom Hanley & Bill James

Engineer: Doc Bennett

Music: Joel Davis

HERBERT MARSHALL (Bradman), Abraham Sofaer (Gilliam / Admiral), Ben Wright (Major / Hopper), Ramsay Hill (Ainsley / Lieutenant), Ted de Corsia (Tweddle), Barney Phillips (Helmsman / Bechtel), George Walsh (Narrator), Roy Rowan (CBS Announcer)

*An Englishman and a German meet up years after the war, and after the Englishman was court-martialled.*

NOTE: This script was first produced by Bill Robson for the *ESCAPE* series, 2-28-50

---

**COMMAND (9-14-58, PRE-CUT: 9-10)  
#767**

Author: James Warner Bellah

Adaptation by William N. Robson

Sound: Bill James & Tom Hanley

Engineer: Doc Bennett

Music: Joel Davis

RICHARD ANDERSON (Cohill), Bill Conrad (Captain), Joe de Santis (Sergeant), Sam Edwards (Mitt), Alan Manson (Opdyke), Bill Quinn (Sarver), Chet Stratton (Coffin), George Walsh (Narrator), Roy Rowan (CBS Announcer)

*A soldier is ambushed by Apaches and must face his superior officer to explain what went wrong.*

NOTES: This script was originally produced twice by Bill Robson for the *ESCAPE* series (12-6-49 & 5-26-50)

Conrad is billed as John Biedermeyer, as he was on 1-20-57

Circulating copies include a home aircheck with a clipped closing, and a later AFRS recording in superior sound.

---

**NO HIDING PLACE (9-21-58, PRE-CUT: 9-17) #768**

Authors: Maurice Lee Green & William Walker

Sound: Bill James & Tom Hanley

Engineer: Doc Bennett

Music: Joel Davis

JIM AMECHE (Eddie), Larry Dobkin (Lawyer / Sergeant / Cop), Shirley Mitchell (Sue), Barney Phillips (Carl), Jack Kruschen (Detective / Bartender), Wendell Holmes (D. A.), Bill James (Dog), George Walsh (Narrator), Roy Rowan (CBS Announcer)

*A family begins a two week tryout in their bomb shelter but a mudslide traps them.*

NOTE: The next show was announced as "The Wait"

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**MISFIRE (9-28-58, RECORDING DATE UNKNOWN) #769**

Author: Tom Hanley

WILLIAM CONRAD (Narrator), John Dehner (Leigh Thurston), Barney Phillips (John Grant), Sam Pierce (Pierce, the Reporter), others

NOTES: A newspaper item from 9-28 reveals, "*SUSPENSE*, which has been heard on Sunday afternoons, will be broadcast at a new time - Saturdays from 7:35 to 8:00 p.m. - effective this week. The first drama to be heard in the new time will be 'Wait' [sic], starring Maria Palmer, the motion picture actress. *SUSPENSE*, now in its 17<sup>th</sup> year of broadcasting **will not be heard this afternoon due to the professional football broadcast.**"

There is an extant tape dub of "Misfire," and previous researchers assumed it was either aired or scheduled for this date, 9-28. The tape (likely a copy for a staff member) has dramatic portions and is fully assembled with music cues and sound effects, but the opening format (including Robson's introduction which is slightly edited to not include Conrad's name as star), appears to be from the 10-6-57 production of this script, and there are no commercials or show closing.

It has more recently been assumed that the show "Misfire" was at one point scheduled for 9-28-58, then cancelled due to the football broadcast noted above and, although the tape is almost broadcast-ready, it apparently never aired.

Bill Conrad replaced Jack Carson who narrated the earlier performance of this

script on October 6, 1957. The other actors are mostly from the original production, although a different voice does the Countdown part and possibly the role of Frank Butler. Although it can seem at times like Conrad's lines replaced Jack Carson's and were dubbed over the 1957 dramatic portions, in fact a new production of the script did take place.

Perhaps this odd tape of "Misfire" - if not aired in any market on 9-28 as is now assumed - was intended for another use, such as an audition for a potential CBS adventure series, or as a demo reel for author Tom Hanley to obtain future writing work. And maybe not. This recording of "Misfire" remains a puzzling mystery, certainly well calculated to keep radio historians in *SUSPENSE*.

Schedule changes to Saturdays, 7:30-7:55 p.m. for seven weeks, participating sponsors
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**THE WAIT (10-4-58, PRE-CUT: 9-24) #770**

Author: Herbert Hosie

Sound: Bill James & Tom Hanley

Engineer: Doc Bennett

Music: Joel Davis

MARIA PALMER (The Girl), John Dehner (Guion), Howard McNear (App), Karl Swenson (Villi), George Walsh (Narrator), Roy Rowan (CBS Announcer)

*Agents in a future state kill revolutionaries but spare a woman who must murder an informer.*

---

**THE TREASURE CHEST OF DON JOSE (10-11-58, PRE-CUT: 8-17) #771**

Author: William N. Robson

Sound: Bill James & Tom Hanley

Engineer: Dick Wormsbecker

Music: Joel Davis

RAYMOND BURR (Gaspar), Joe de Santis (Jeff), Karl Swenson (Tris), Tommy Cook (Steve), Charles Seel (Coffin), George Walsh (Narrator), Roy Rowan (CBS Announcer)

*A man searches for a legendary pirate's treasure but there is a curse and a fresh corpse.*

NOTE: This script was also produced on 2-4-52 and 6-26-56

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**THREE SKELETON KEY (10-18-58, PRE-CUT: 10-1-58) #772**

Author: George Toudouze

Adaptation by James Poe

Sound: Bill James & Tom Hanley

Engineer: Doc Bennett

Music: Joel Davis

VINCENT PRICE (Gene), Ben Wright (August), Larry Dobkin (Louie), Phil Candrova (Musician), George Walsh (Narrator), Roy Rowan (CBS Announcer)

*Three lighthouse workers are trapped when a huge swarm of ravenous ship's rats are freed from a small boat.*

NOTES: This famous script was produced three times on the *ESCAPE* series (11-15-49, 3-17-50 [both by Bill Robson] and 8-19-53), and was originally produced by Robson for *SUSPENSE* on 11-11-56

James and Hanley were credited on air for their sound patterns.

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**HEADSHRINKER (10-25-58, PRE-CUT: 10-18) #773**

Author: William N. Robson

Sound: Tom Hanley

Engineer: Doc Bennett

Music: Joel Davis

NINA FOCH (Ruth), HELMUT DANTINE (The Doctor), Florence Hawksmith (Nurse), George Walsh (Narrator), Roy Rowan (CBS Announcer)

*A psychiatrist and his patient have had an affair but she now feels taken advantage of and plans to kill him.*

NOTE: This script was also produced on 8-23-59

---

**THE DEALINGS OF MR. MARKHAM (11-1-58, PRE-CUT: 10-25) #774**

Author: John Dickson Carr

Sound: Gus Bayz, Tom Hanley

Engineer: Bob McKenny

Music: Joel Davis

JAMES MASON (Charles & Ronald Markham), PAMELA MASON (Judith Ray), Ben Wright (Ronald Gilbert), Daws Butler (Cab Driver / Clock Voice), George Walsh (Narrator), Roy Rowan (CBS Announcer)

*An antique dealer is shot for blackmailing a couple, and he has vowed to return after death.*

NOTE: This script was originally produced on 5-11-43 (as "Mr. Markham, Antique Dealer"), and again on 6-28-45

---

**TWO FOR THE ROAD (11-8-58,  
PRE-CUT: 10-29) #775**

Author: William N. Robson

Sound: Gus Bayz & Tom Hanley

Engineer: Doc Bennett

Music: Joel Davis

WILLIAM CONRAD (Joe), CHARLES MCGRAW (Charlie), June Foray (Annie / Woman), Tom Thompson (Counterman), Jack Kruschen (First Cop / first Voice), Barney Phillips (Second Cop), Sam Pierce (TV Voice / Banker), Paula Winslowe (Wife), Howard McNear (Sheriff), George Walsh (Narrator), Roy Rowan (CBS Announcer)

*TV actors playing hoods are arrested on suspicion of murder and robbery.*

NOTE: McGraw and Conrad appear at first to be reviving their assassin duo from the movie *THE KILLERS* (1946), but here they play actors who portray TV bad guys (and Conrad was in fact subbing for Frank Lovejoy who was previously announced to co-star with McGraw in this show)

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**AFFAIR AT ADEN (11-15-58, PRE-CUT: 11-5) #776**

Author: Les Crutchfield

Sound: Bill James & Tom Hanley

Engineer: Doc Bennett

Music: Joel Davis

FRANK LOVEJOY (John), Lillian Buyeff (Beth), Berry Kroeger (Fahad), Alan Manson (Commissioner), Tracey Roberts (Tarah), Don Diamond (Arab), George Walsh (Narrator), Roy Rowan (CBS Announcer)

*An American oil man must rescue his kidnapped Arabian fiancée.*

NOTES: This script was first produced on the *ROMANCE* series (5-29-54)

The circulating copy is an aircheck with a clipped closing

Schedule change back to Sundays, 5:30-5:55 pm ET
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**MY DEAR NIECE (11-23-58, LIVE)  
#777**

Author: Elliott Lewis

Sound: Gus Bayz, Vic Livotti

Engineer: Doc Bennett

Music: Joel Davis

LEE PATRICK (Emily), Lillian Buyeff (Mary), Berry Kroeger (Bruce), Barney Phillips (Cop), Jack Kruschen (Al), Norm Alden (Man), George Walsh (Narrator), Bud Sewall (Announcer)

*A landlady takes in a boarder who is supposedly a writer but is actually a dangerous armed criminal.*

NOTES: This script was originally produced on 1-24-46

Unusually for this period, this show was performed live.

---

**A STATEMENT OF FACT (11-30-58,  
PRE-CUT: 11-12) #778**

Author: E. Jack Neuman

Sound: Bill James & Tom Hanley

Engineer: Doc Bennett

Music: Joel Davis

CATHY LEWIS (Ellen Dudley), John Dehner (John / Chris), Barney Phillips (John), Charles Seel (Morrow / Thayler), George Walsh (Narrator), Bud Sewall (CBS Announcer)



*A tough attorney has his attitude swayed by the woman he is prosecuting.*

NOTE: This script was first produced for Elliott Lewis's *ON STAGE* series (5-14-53)

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**TOM DOOLEY (12-7-58) #779**

Authors: Morton Fine & David Friedkin

ROBERT HORTON (Tom Dooley), Hilda Hart (Laura Foster), Norm Alden (Cousin Noah), Robert Easton (Jess), Karl Swenson (Paul Grayson), Joe de Santis (Yankee), George Walsh (Narrator)

*The folk song about a vengeful soldier who after the Civil War finds his girlfriend engaged to a Yankee.*

NOTES: This script was also produced on 3-30-53

This production uses excerpts from the then-current hit song ["Hang Down Your Head] Tom Dooley" by The Kingston Trio to link each story segment

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**FOR OLD TIME'S SAKE (12-14-58) #780**

Author: E. Jack Neuman [Gordon Christian]

JOHN LUND (Bert Winterfield), Virginia Gregg (Helen), Bill Quinn (Lt. Williams / Nelson / Robber #2), Joe de Santis (Pinky), George Walsh (Narrator)

*An ex-con who has gone straight is at a bank which is robbed by an old crony.*

---

**OUT FOR CHRISTMAS (12-21-58) #781**

Author: William N. Robson

RAYMOND BURR (Joe Watson), Howard McNear (Charlie), Joan Banks (Lucille), Lillian Buyeff (Lucy), Charles Seel (Bartender), Karl Swenson (Mike Malloy), Dick Beals (Mikey), George Walsh (Narrator)

*At Christmas time, a vengeful ex-con wants to kill the cop responsible for sending him to jail.*

NOTE: The circulating copy is a network aircheck

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**THE THIRTY SECOND OF DECEMBER (12-28-58) #782**

Authors: Morris Lee Green & William Walker

FRANK LOVEJOY (Joe Adcock), Joan Banks [Lovejoy] (Molly), Barney Phillips (Pawnbroker / Banker), Sam Pierce (Harry / Radio voice), Norm Alden (Thug), George Walsh (Narrator)

*A fantasy about a pocket watch that can transport its gambler-owner through time.*

NOTES: "Four of a Kind" was scheduled for this date, but it aired on 1-25-59

The circulating copy is a network aircheck

---

**DON'T CALL ME MOTHER (1-4-59) #783**

Author: William N. Robson

AGNES MOOREHEAD (Laurie Ryder), Cathy Lewis (Roberta), James McCallion (Larry Ryder), Barney Phillips (Stern the butcher / Lt. Ross), Norm Alden (Sergeant Adam), George Walsh (Narrator)

*An unhealthy mother-son relationship turns to a murder plot.*



NOTE: The working title for this story was “‘M’ is for the Million Things.”

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### **NIGHT ON RED MOUNTAIN (1-11-59) #784**

Author: William N. Robson

DICK CRENNNA (Walt, alias Joey Parino), Celeste Bullis (Operator), Peter Leeds (Bat), Doris Singleton (Sally), Joe de Santis (Big Pete Parelli / Dad), Sam Pierce (Highway Patrol voice), Norm Alden (Sergeant Toohey), George Walsh (Narrator)

*An ex-criminal goes straight but runs into a former crony, and he knows the old gang will want him back.*

NOTE: This script was also produced on 3-8-55 (as “Nobody Ever Quits”), 9-15-57 and 11-20-60 (Dick Crenna also starred in the 1957 Robson production)

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### **RIDE DOWN CAJON (1-18-59, PRE-CUT: 1-14) #785**

Author: John Maller

Adaptation by William N. Robson

Sound: Tom Hanley & Bill James

Engineer: Bob Chadwick

Music: Jack Tillar

WILLIAM BISHOP (Andy), Bill Quinn (Phil), Joe de Santis (Dave), George Walsh (Narrator),

CBS Announcer: Roy Rowan

*A large truck is driving out of control down a steep California mountain, its brakes gone.*

---

### **FOUR OF A KIND (1-25-59) #786**

Author: John Bagni & Gwen Bagni Gielgud

ELLIOTT REID (Ridge Fowler), Joan Tompkins (Virginia), Alan Reed (J. Stuart Belden), Jack Kruschen (Police Sergeant), Barney Phillips (Al / Truck Driver), George Walsh (Narrator)

CBS Announcer: Roy Rowan

*A hitchhiker is picked up by a desperate man who intends to fake his own death.*

NOTE: This script was originally produced on 9-16-48 (as “Hitchhike Poker”)

---

### **RETURN TO DUST (2-1-59) #787**

Author: George Bamber

Sound: Bill James, Tom Hanley

RICHARD BEALS (James Howard), Lawrence Dobkin (Dr. Warren Bader), Paula Winslowe (Miss Pritchard), George Walsh (Narrator)

*A scientist’s experiment leads to his shrinking in size alarmingly, now too small to dial for help.*

---

### **DEATH NOTICE (2-8-59) #788**

Author: William N. Robson

VICTOR JORY (Charlie Slade), LEE PATRICK (Mildred), Brooke Byron (Sandra), Peter Votrian (Chuck), Barney Phillips (Doctor / Priest), George Walsh (Narrator)

CBS Announcer: Roy Rowan

*A man is given a short time to live and he re-examines his values.*

---

**THE SIGNALMAN (2-15-59) #789**

Author: Charles Dickens

Adaptation by Irving Reis

ELLEN DREW (Amy Sears), Ben Wright (The Signalman), George Walsh (Narrator)

*The famous Dickens ghost story set in a lonely British rail station.*

NOTE: This script was also produced on 3-23-53 and 11-4-56

---

**STAR OVER HONG KONG (2-22-59) #790**

Author: William N. Robson

MARIE WILSON (Celestine Mayhew), Ben Wright (Randolph Harvordsen-Smythe), Charlie Lung (Chinese Man / Wong), Ramsay Hill (Captain), Norm Alden (Joey Finn), George Walsh (Narrator)

CBS Announcers: Roy Rowan, Hugh Douglas

*A popular but airheaded movie actress is kidnapped on a PR trip.*

---

**THE WAXWORK (3-1-59) #791**

Author: A. M. Burrage

Adaptation by Mel Dinelli

HERBERT MARSHALL (All roles: Raymond Hewson + Narrator + Waxworks Manager + Dr. Burdette), George Walsh (*Suspense* Narrator)

*The one-man play about a reporter's scary night alone in a wax museum.*

NOTE: This script was also produced on 3-20-47 and 5-1-56

---

**MADMAN OF MANHATTAN (3-8-59) #792**

Author: Gilbert Thomas

MYRON McCORMICK (Lacey), Doris Singleton (Fay the Waitress / Ann), Karl Swenson (Martin Avery), Barney Phillips (Admissions clerk / Lieutenant Creekmore), Norm Alden (Pop), George Walsh (Narrator)

Roy Rowan (CBS Announcer)

*An escaped murderer intends to prove his innocence by finding the man who killed his wife and framed him.*

NOTE: This script was originally produced on 1-19-50 (as "The Escape of Lacey Abbott")

---

**DEATH IN BOX TWO-THIRTY-FOUR (3-15-59) #793**

Author: Don Hahn

FRANK LOVEJOY (Harry), Edgar Stehli (Jensen), Lou Krugman (George), Sam Pierce (Gil), George Walsh (Narrator)

Roy Rowan (CBS Announcer)

*A bank employee tries to rob an old man's safety deposit box.*

---

**SCRIPT BY MARK BRADY (3-22-59) #794**

Authors: Celeste Bullis & William N. Robson

MARIE WINDSOR (Mary), Vic Perrin (Mark), Ben Wright (Jason), Sam Pierce (Police Sergeant), George Walsh (Narrator)

Roy Rowan (CBS Announcer)

*A writer suspects his wife is being unfaithful, and plans to kill her and her*

*lover by first writing about it in a screenplay.*

---

**JOHN BARBEY AND SON (3-29-59, PRE-CUT: 3-18) #795**

Author: Mel Dinelli

Sound: Tom Hanley & Bill James

Engineer: Pat Walsh

Music: Jack Tillar

JOHN McINTIRE (John Barbey, alias Wilson), Ellen Morgan (Miss White), Karl Swenson (Mr. Wilk / Frank), Sam Pierce (Clerk), Jack Kruschen (Truckdriver / Detective Bowen), George Walsh (Narrator)

Roy Rowan (CBS Announcer)

*A disturbed father takes his mentally impaired son on a road trip but no-one can see the boy.*

NOTE: This script was originally produced on 2-22-45

<p><b>SUSPENSE</b> was pre-empted on 4-5-59</p>
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**TOO HOT TO LIVE (4-12-59) #796**

Author: Sam Rolfe

VAN HEFLIN (Jefferson Casey), Doris Singleton (Rachael), Berry Kroeger (Benjamin Maxwell), Charles Seel (Pop Clovis), Barney Phillips (Kenny), Norm Alden (Stranger), George Walsh (Narrator)

Roy Rowan (CBS Announcer)

*A stranger in a small town is soon on the run from a murder charge.*

NOTE: This script was also produced on 10-26-50 and 6-29-54

---

**SEE HOW HE RUNS (4-19-59) #797**

Author: George Bamber

JIM BACKUS (Poppy), Gail Bonney (Landlady), Norm Alden (Ed Barker / Second hood), Lou Krugman (Carl), Barney Phillips (Al), Dick Beals (Bobby), Sam Pierce (First hood on phone), George Walsh (Narrator)

*A blind newspaper seller is involved with the numbers racket until the mob comes after him when he "witnesses" a killing.*

Script was re-used on *THEATER FIVE* on 5-19-65 and was retitled "Blind Man's Bluff"

---

**DEEP, DEEP IS MY LOVE (4-26-59) #798**

Author: Hank Searles

LLOYD BRIDGES (Don), Tracey Roberts (Girl), Mari Lynn (Joyce), Bill Quinn (George), George Walsh (Narrator)

*A skindiver's wife suspects something is wrong, but doesn't know her husband is diving in search of a mermaid.*

NOTE: The circulating copy is an aircheck with a clipped closing

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**THE AMATEUR (5-3-59) #799**

Author: Robert Juhren

JACKIE COOPER (Jerry), Tommy Cook (Boots), Peter Leeds (Edward Keller), Berry Kroeger (Giacomo / Cop), Norm Alden (Neighbor / Henchman), George Walsh (Narrator)

Roy Rowan (CBS Announcer)

*A punk tries to blackmail a hit-run driver but finds he is involved with a heroin gang.*

---

**ON A COUNTRY ROAD (5-10-59)  
#800**

Author: Walter Bazar

IDA LUPINO (Dorothy), HOWARD DUFF (David), Jeanette Nolan (Nellie), Norm Alden (Policeman), George Walsh (Narrator / newscaster)

*A couple are driving at night and hear a report of a mad woman who has escaped, and then their car stalls.*

NOTE: This popular script was also produced on 11-16-50, 1-4-54 and 12-9-54

---

**FRIEND OF DADDY'S (5-17-59) #801**

Author: William N. Robson

FRANK LOVEJOY (Butch Bailey), Dick Beals (Butch Carson), Cathy Lewis (Louise Carson), Bill Quinn (Pete Carson), George Walsh (Narrator)

*A hard-bitten veteran is given a place to stay with an old army pal, but he is menacing to the man's wife.*

---

**SPOILS FOR VICTOR (5-24-59, PRE-CUT: 5-6) #802**

Author: Joseph Hudock

Adaptation by Robert L. Richards

Sound: Tom Hanley & Bill James

Engineer: Pat Walsh

Music: Don Ray

ROBERT HORTON (Vic), Georgia Ellis (Helen), Joan Banks (Maid), Berry Kroeger (Barney), George Walsh (Narrator), Roy Rowan (CBS Announcer)

*An out-of-work actor marries a wealthy girl, intending to take advantage of the state's community property law.*

NOTE: This script was originally produced on 5-23-46

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**THE MAN WHO WOULD BE KING (5-31-59) #803**

Author: Rudyard Kipling

Adaptation by Les Crutchfield

DAN O'HERLIHY (Peachy Carnehan), Ben Wright (Daniel Dravot), Jay Novello (Billy Fish the High Priest), Richard Peel (Kipling the narrator), Lillian Buyeff (Roxanne), George Walsh (*Suspense* Narrator) Roy Rowan (CBS Announcer)

*Two rogues pretend to be kings in East India, but are exposed as charlatans.*

NOTE: This script was originally produced twice on the *ESCAPE* series (7-7-47 [the premier show by Bill Robson] & 8-1-48)

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**THE PIT AND THE PENDULUM (6-7-59) #804**

Author: Edgar Allan Poe

Adaptation by John Dickson Carr

RAYMOND BURR (Jean Dálbret), Patricia Sills (Beatrix Valdez), Jay Novello (Pedro Espila the Grand Inquisitor), Ben Wright (Antonio / Clerk), George Walsh (Narrator)

*During the Spanish Inquisition, a Frenchman is sentenced to die by awful torture.*

NOTE: This script was also produced on 1-12-43, 11-28-47 and 11-10-57

---

**DRIVE-IN (6-14-59) #805**

Author: Muriel Roy Bolton

Adaptation by Mel Dinelli

MARGARET WHITING (Mildred), Gale Lucas (Ruth), William Wintersole (Dr. Russell, alias The Man), Norm Alden (Highway Patrol Cop / Driver), George Walsh (Narrator)

*A car-hop accepts a ride from a seemingly sane man who kidnaps her.*

NOTE: This script was also produced on 1-11-45 and 11-21-46

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**IVY IS A LOVELY NAME (6-21-59) #806**

Author: Sam Pierce

FRANK LOVEJOY (Tom Peterson), Joan Banks (Linda), Richard Beals (Bobby), Sam Pierce (Doctor), Jerry Hausner (Cop / Baby sounds), George Walsh (Narrator)

*A woman is about to give birth but on the drive to the hospital they get a flat tire and she is stranded.*

NOTES: This script was also produced on 10-2-60

This show marked the 17<sup>th</sup> anniversary of *SUSPENSE*

In the last week of June, trade publications announced that, as part of a large-scale CBS budgetary decision, two network shows originating at KNX in Hollywood (*SUSPENSE* and *YOURS TRULY, JOHNNY DOLLAR*) would be moved to the East Coast in late August. The “economic upheaval” would see cost savings projected at over \$250,000. Robson and *JOHNNY DOLLAR* auteur Jack Johnstone both declined to move (*JOHNNY DOLLAR* got a late reprieve and remained on

the West Coast for another year until July 1960), although both men would contribute scripts for several of the New York productions.

---

**ANALYTICAL HOUR (6-28-59) #807**

Author: Alan Botzer

JACK CARSON (Mr. Nelson), John Hoyt (The Doctor), Sam Pierce (Police Officer), George Walsh (Narrator)

*A patient in analysis boasts of poisoning both his wife and the psychiatrist.*

---

**BLOOD IS THICKER (7-5-59) #808**

Author: Sam Pierce

EVERETT SLOANE (Mike Farley), Cathy Lewis (Vanessa Evans), Larry Dobkin (Hugh Guthrie), Bill Quinn (Mac), Sam Pierce (Pete), George Walsh (Narrator)

*A man pretends to be a wealthy sailor to ingratiate himself with a rich woman, but he is found out.*

---

**EYEWITNESS (7-12-59) #809**

Author: William N. Robson

JOHN LUND (Bob Kelly), Joe de Santis (J. Conrad Alan), Barney Phillips (Captain Wolfe), Norm Alden (Wiley), Sam Pierce (Limpy), Lou Krugman (Big Joe), Larry Dobkin (Warden), George Walsh (Narrator)

*A reporter gets a first-hand story about prison life when he is taken hostage during a riot.*

NOTE: This script was originally produced on 12-16-56

---

### **AN OCCURRENCE AT OWL CREEK BRIDGE (7-19-59) #810**

Author: Ambrose Bierce

Adaptation by William N. Robson

VINCENT PRICE (Paton Farquahar), Cathy Lewis (Paton's Wife), Barney Phillips (Captain), Sam Pierce (Narrator), Roy Glenn (Jethro), Norm Alden (Sergeant), Sam Edwards (Lieutenant Saltonstall alias the Corporal), George Walsh (Narrator)

Roy Rowan (CBS Announcer)

*The last moments in the life of a man who is being hanged during the Civil War.*

NOTE: This script was originally produced by Bill Robson on the *ESCAPE* series (12-10-47), and twice previously by Robson on *SUSPENSE* (12-9-56 & 12-15-57)

---

### **NIGHT MAN (7-26-59, PRE-CUT 7-2) #811**

Author: Lucille Fletcher

Sound: Tom Hanley & Bill James

Engineer: Ray Gerhardt

Music: Joel Davis

MARSHA HUNT (Stella Rhodes), Lawrence Dobkin (The Night Man), Charles Seel (W. Graves), George Walsh (Narrator)

Roy Rowan (CBS Announcer)

*A woman whose mother was murdered swears she has just seen the killer, apparently freed from prison.*

NOTE: This script was also produced on 10-26-44 and 10-23-60

---

### **RED CLOUD MESA (8-2-59) #812**

Author: William Eastlake [*Colliers* magazine story, "Where the Warriors Crossed"]

Adaptation by William N. Robson

JOSEPH COTTEN (Captain Bowman), Jay Novello (Four Tongues, aka One of Us), Vic Perrin (Rabbit Stockings), Larry Dobkin (Arturo), Howard McNear (Yellow Salt), George Walsh (Narrator)

*An Indian with mental issues escapes from captivity and returns to the reservation, intending to die there.*

NOTE: This script was originally produced on 10-30-56

---

### **EVERYTHING WILL BE DIFFERENT (8-9-59) #813**

Author: William N. Robson

CATHY LEWIS (Shirley), Peter Leeds (Wally), Larry Dobkin (Herb / Nino), Virginia Gregg (The Neighbor), George Walsh (Narrator)

*A man discovers his girlfriend was once married to a man she thinks she murdered.*

---

### **LIKE MAN, SOMEBODY DIG ME (8-16-59) #814**

Author: George Bamber

DENNIS DAY ("Tennis Shoe"), Lillian Buyeff (Mary / Old Woman), Bill Quinn (Walter / George), Jack Moyles (Radio voice / Sheriff), Paul Frees ("The Cat" / Bronson / Mortician), Charles Seel (Old Timer), George Walsh (Narrator)

*An indolent beatnik is mistaken for an escaped killer and is about to be lynched.*

NOTE: This script was originally produced on 5-25-58

---

## **HEADSHRINKER (8-23-59) #815**

Author: William N. Robson

AGNES MOOREHEAD (Ruth), Lawrence Dobkin (Doctor), Patty Gallagher (Nurse), George Walsh (Narrator)

*A patient who has had a relationship with her psychiatrist now feels used, and her thoughts turn to murder.*

NOTE: This script was originally produced on 10-25-58.

This was the final of 781 *SUSPENSE* shows to originate from Hollywood. Production was moved to CBS, Manhattan for the remaining 128 shows. There were many new stories with less reliance on older scripts as had been the case for several years. The budget was slashed still further, and the show - while producing many genuinely suspenseful entries - never quite felt the same as its Coast version.

# **SUSPENSE, RETURN TO NEW YORK, AUGUST 1959 TO SEPTEMBER 1962**

Producer-Director: Paul Roberts

Music supervision: Ethel Huber

*SUSPENSE* narrator: George Walsh (his distinctive menacing announcement, “wild-tracked” in Hollywood, was used as the opening signature voice from 1959-60 on the first series of New York shows)

CBS [New York] Announcer: Stuart Metz (or Art Hanna)

Actors’ role IDs, when known, are taken from the airchecks and surviving newspaper announcements. It is uncertain if the New York *SUSPENSE* scripts survive.

Schedule continues on Sundays, 5:30-6:00 pm, for participating sponsors

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## **A MATTER OF EXECUTION (8-30-59) #816**

Author: Harold Huber

Peter Lazer (Boy), Ginger Jones, Santos Ortega, Martin Blaine, Bernard Grant, Nat Polen, Sam Raskyn, Bill Adams, Harold Huber (Police Lieutenant) (*No roles were announced*)

*A dying man confesses a murder to a ten year old boy, telling him an innocent man will be executed that night.*

---

## **AFTER THE MOVIES (9-6-59) #817**

Author: Jack Finney

Adaptation by David Ellis & Robert L. Richards

KEVIN McCARTHY (Albert Bennig), no other cast information

*An honest juror is bribed but when he goes to the police a gang kidnaps his wife.*

NOTE: This script was originally produced on 12-7-50

---

## **DEATH AND THE ESCORT (9-13-59) #818**

Author: Harold Huber

Don McLaughlin (Ed), Elspeth Eric (Jan), Bob Dryden, Joseph Julian, Larry Haines, Leon Janney, Harold Huber, Maurice Tarplin, Ian Martin

*A man claiming to be a police escort arrives to take a witness in a trial to court.*

NOTE: This was the last acting performance by author Harold Huber who died suddenly after an operation in late September. Another of his scripts was produced posthumously and aired on 10-25-59

---

## **THE BEETLE AND MR. BOTTLE (9-20-59) #819**

Author: Richard Chandlee

John Gibson (Bottle), Cathleen Cordell (Ethel), Mason Adams, Phyllis Baxter, Ian Martin, Guy Repp

*A light-hearted story of an old English bookkeeper who plans to kill his wife.*

NOTE: This script was originally produced on 8-23-55



**SUSPENSE** is pre-empted on 9-27-59  
[The show "Room 203" scheduled for  
this date airs the following week]

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### **ROOM 203 (10-4-59) #820**

Author: Milton Lewis

Ellen MacRae (Toni), Bernard Grant (Chris), Ralph Bell (Detective Green), Joe Julian (Psychiatrist), Eric Dressler? (Spencer), Edwin Wolfe (Newspaper editor), Charles Colman

*A woman with mental issues insists she saw a young woman being murdered.*

---

### **INFANTICIDE (10-11-59) #821**

Author: Eleazar Lipsky

Adaptation by Allan Sloane

Santos Ortega (Mr. Kaplan), Nat Polen, Ralph Bell, Ruth McDevitt, Frank Butler, Danny Ocko, Ethel Everett

*When a child is drowned the police believe he was murdered, but they can't determine who the killer is.*

---

### **THE CRISIS OF DIRK DIAMOND (10-18-59) #822**

Author: Sam Locke

Bernard Grant (Mike), Luis Van Rooten (Welby), Eric Dressler (Freddie), Ian Martin, Larry Haines, Maurice Tarplin (Sam Raskyn, Frank Thomas, Jr., Ellen McRae, Ruth Tobin were mentioned as cast members in a news item)

*A cartoonist creates a villain for a comic strip but the monstrous figure begins to seem all too real.*

NOTE: Locke's story was originally produced for the TV series *The Web* on 1-31-51

---

### **THE EASY VICTIM (10-25-59) #823**

Author: Harold Huber

Paul McGrath (Art), Elspeth Eric (Ella), Robert Readick (Herbert), Leon Janney (Don)

*A gambler marries a rich woman and plans to kill her for her wealth.*

---

### **RE-ENTRY (11-1-59) #824**

Author: George Bamber

Lyle Sudrow (Pappy), Margaret Draper, Mason Adams, Jim Boles, Frank Butler, Whitfield Connor, Les Damon (General Bright), Bob Donley, Bob Readick, Frank Thomas, Jr.

*A rocket pilot in outer space experiences such euphoria he doesn't want to return to Earth.*

---

### **THE LAST TRIP (11-8-59) #825**

Authors: Ralph Bell & Eugene Francis

Ralph Bell, Connie Lembcke (Wife), Bob Dryden (Policeman), Eugene Francis (*no roles were announced*)

*A wife plants a timebomb in her husband's briefcase.*

---

### **THE COMPANION (11-15-59) #826**

Author: Walter Black

Virginia Payne (Mrs. Henson), Elizabeth Lawrence (Lois), Rita Lloyd (Miss Lord), Walter Black

*A woman regrets hiring a companion for her elderly mother, and fears they will both die.*

---

**THE THIMBLE (11-22-59) #827**

Author: Eleazar Lipsky

Adaptation by Allan Sloane

Whitfield Connor, Paul McGrath (Doctor), Teri Keane, Danny Ocko, Joe de Santis (Detective), Jane Rose, Maurice Tarplin, Ruth Tobin (*no roles were announced*)

*A District Attorney is convinced a woman thought to have died accidentally was in fact murdered.*

NOTE: Originally written for  
*INDICTMENT*

---

**LEININGEN AND THE ANTS (11-29-59) #828**

Author: Carl Stephenson

Adaptation by Robert Ryf

Luis Van Rooten (Leiningen), Martin Blaine (The Commissioner), Ralph Camargo, Sam Raskyn, Ronald Dawson

*An Amazon plantation owner must defeat a huge column of deadly army ants.*

NOTES: This script was first produced for *SUSPENSE* (by its correct title “Leiningen VERSUS the Ants”) on 8-25-57. It was originally produced four times on the *ESCAPE* series (1-14-48, 1-17-48, 5-23-48 & 8-4-49)

For this New York production, Leiningen was pronounced with a hard “g,” and the story title was slightly different: “And” instead of “Vs.” The script writer Robert Ryf had a surname that rhymed with “life,” but the N. Y. announcer pronounced it as “Riff.”

---

**DYNAMITE RUN (12-6-59) #829**

Author: Peter Fernandez

Mason Adams (Ben), Larry Haines (Zuckert), Elaine Rost (Kate), Jim Boles, Robert Dryden, Herb Duncan, Bill Lipton

*A truck driver accepts the difficult job of transporting a large load of dynamite, then finds an unstable killer has hidden in his vehicle.*

---

**THE COUNTRY OF THE BLIND (12-13-59) #830**

Author: H. G. Wells

Adaptation by John Dunkel

Bernard Grant (Nunez), Lyn Loring (Medina Sarote), Ralph Camargo, Arthur Cole, Jackson Beck, Santos Ortega

*A man returns years after being in a hidden Andes valley populated entirely by unsighted people.*

NOTE: This script was previously produced on 10-27-57, and was originally produced three times on the *ESCAPE* series (11-26-47, 6-27-48 & 3-20-49)

---

**KOREAN CHRISTMAS CAROL (12-20-59) #831**

Author: George Bamber

Bill Lipton (Pfc. Larry Connolly), Lyle Sudrow (Richards), Phil Meador, Guy Repp, Larry Robinson, Lawson Zerbe, Allan Manson

*A soldier serving in South Korea during Christmas experiences a strange feeling about a fellow GI he meets.*

---

**MOONLIGHT SAIL (12-27-59) #832**

Author: William N. Robson

Frank Thomas, Jr. (Steve), Luis Van Rooten (Jacques), Jim Boles, Joan Lazer (Adele), Ethel Waite Owen (Mrs. Dawson), Jack Manning, Sam Raskyn, Guy Repp

*A charter boat captain undertakes a tricky rescue of a woman held captive in the French Riviera.*

---

**ZERO HOUR (1-3-60) #833**

Author: Ray Bradbury

Adaptation by Antony Ellis

Francie Myers (Mink Morris), John Gibson (Henry), Ginger Jones (Mrs. Morris), Sarah Fussell (Anna, Mink's Friend), Vivian Smolen (Helen)

*Children the world over have taken to a strange new game called "Invasion," at first dismissed by their parents as just some frivolous pastime.*

NOTE: This script was first produced on *ESCAPE* (10-4-53), and twice previously on *SUSPENSE* (4-5-55 & 5-18-58).

---

**THE LONG NIGHT (1-10-60) #834**

Author: Walter Black

Ellen MacRae (Betty Lou), Bill Adams (Vern), Sam Gray (Porter), Charlotte Manson, Herb Duncan, Walter Black

*A killer escapes and holds four people hostage on a farm.*

---

**THE TIME, THE PLACE, AND THE DEATH (1-17-60) #835**

Author: Peter Fernandez

Eric Dressler (Henry), Bryna Raeburn (the Seeress), Claudia Morgan (Irene), Peter Fernandez, Maurice Tarplin, Mercer McLeod (Joseph), Dwight Weist, Edwin Wolfe

*A man believes a fortune teller's prediction of his impending death, unaware his wife and her lover are planning just that.*

Script was re-used on *THEATER FIVE* on 2-2-65

---

**TURN ABOUT (1-24-60) #836**

Author: Jay Bennett

Leonard Stone (Walker Carlton), Neil Fitzgerald, Raymond Edward Johnson, Larry Haines, Katharine Emmett (Mother), Ginger Jones (Emily Ross), Peter Lazer (Boy), Melville Ruick (Martin Ross)

*A psycho killer holds the D. A.'s family hostage.*

---

**END OF THE ROAD (1-31-60) #837**

Author: Eleazar Lipsky

Adaptation by Allan Sloane

Bernard Grant (Willie Luciano), Rita Lloyd (Mary Luciano), John Seymour (Lawyer), Nat Polen (Mr. Morgan), Rita Surgel (spelling?)

*A woman is in an abusive marriage but she won't press charges against her brutal spouse.*

NOTE: This story was originally produced on *INDICTMENT*

---

**THE MYSTERY OF MARIE ROGET  
(2-7-60) #838**

Author: Edgar Allan Poe

Adaptation by E. Jack Neuman

Jackson Beck (Dupin), Robert Dryden  
(The Prefect), Ethel Everett, Jim Boles,  
Abby Lewis, Guy Repp (Bouvet), Ronald  
Dawson

*Dupin the famous detective must solve the  
baffling killing of a young girl.*

NOTE: This script was originally  
produced on 12-14-53

---

**SORRY, WRONG NUMBER (2-14-60)  
#839**

Author: Lucille Fletcher

Producer-Director: William N. Robson

AGNES MOOREHEAD (Mrs.  
Stevenson), Jeanette Nolan (Chief  
Operator), Virginia Gregg (Operator /  
Information), Ellen Morgan (Henchley  
Hospital), Joe de Santis (George), Byron  
Kane (Boss / Western Union), Norm  
Alden (Sergeant Martin)

*A nervous woman gets a crossed phone  
line and hears about a planned murder.*

NOTES: The eighth and final airing of this  
most famous of *SUSPENSE* shows. The  
script was previously produced on 5-25-  
43, 8-21-43, 2-24-44, 9-6-45, 11-18-48, 9-  
15-52 and 10-20-57.

This show was an edited replay of the  
1957 tape production done in Hollywood.

---

**CRANK LETTER (2-21-60) #840**

Author: Walter Black

Lyle Sudrow (Dr. Donald Frazier), Les  
Damon (Lt. Nieman), Larry Haines (Fred  
Gilbert), Phil Meeder (the young Donald  
Fraser), Walter Black (Bodyguard)

*A surgeon is getting death threats  
following the recent loss of a patient on the  
operating table.*

---

**LT. LANGER'S LAST COLLECTION  
(2-28-60) #841**

Author: George Bamber

Frank Milano (Lt. Langer), Murray Forbes  
(Bruno), Frank Thomas, Jr., Ginger Jones,  
Jack Grimes, Ian Martin, William Mason

*A corrupt policeman has a heart attack  
and needs help from a man he had been  
regularly shaking down.*

---

**SLEEP IS FOR CHILDREN (3-6-60)  
#842**

Authors: Ralph Bell & Eugene Francis

Elsbeth Eric (Ellen Gordon), Ralph Bell  
(Walter Gordon), Sarah Fussell, Bill  
Adams (Mr. Beppler), Betty Garde (Rosa),  
Ruth Tobin

*A serial killer is loose on a housing estate  
and a mother is deeply concerned.*

---

**REVOLUTION (3-13-60) #843**

Author: Peter Fernandez

Rosemary Rice (Elizabeth), Santos Ortega  
(Captain Santos), Jim Boles, Ralph  
Camargo, Ronald Dawson, Phil Meeder  
(Bob)

*A honeymoon couple in Latin America get  
caught in a political uprising and  
attempted assassination.*

---

**TALK ABOUT CARUSO (3-20-60)  
#844**

Author: Milton Geiger

Mason Adams (Galt), Stuart Foster (Joe Trenton), Arlene Walker (Francesca), Robert Dryden (Arrigo)

*A fighter is in the bad books with the mob when he decides he wants to quit the ring and become an opera singer.*

---

**A COFFIN FOR MR. CASH (3-27-60)  
#845**

Author: Robert Arthur

Leon Janney (Pete Wilson), Mandel Kramer (Al Thomas), Joseph Boland, Bob Donley, Sam Raskyn

*The mob is missing half a million dollars and a morgue worker is involved.*

NOTE: Originally written for *The Mysterious Traveler* on 3-20-51

---

**A SHIPMENT OF MUTE FATE (4-3-60) #846**

Author: Martin Storm

Adaptation by Les Crutchfield

Bernard Grant (Chris Warner), Inga Swenson (Mother Willis), Frank Milano (Clara the cat), Ralph Bell, Bob Dryden, Frank Thomas, Jr.

*A deadly poisonous bushmaster snake gets loose on a ship at sea.*

NOTE: This script was previously produced on 1-6-57, and was originally heard three times on *ESCAPE* (10-15-47, 3-28-48 & 3-13-49)

---

**TWO HORSE PARLAY (4-10-60)  
#847**

Author: Walter Black

Jane Rose (Aunt), Lyle Sudrow (Johnny), Ellen MacRae (Eve), Larry Haines (Berkow)

*A piano student needs \$4,000 to pay back a gambling ring.*

---

**TONIGHT AT 5:55 (4-17-60) #848**

Author: George Bamber

Luis Van Rooten (The Chairman), Whitfield Connor (Williams), Francine Meyers (Betty), John Gibson (Thiess), Larry Robinson (The Marine), Bob Readick (Stettis), Ralph Camargo (Harrison)

*A nuclear war scenario as an enemy state sends America an ultimatum to surrender or be destroyed.*

---

**ONE MORE SHOT (4-24-60) #849**

Author: William N. Robson

Joseph Julian (Bernie), Jim Boles (Rocko), Nat Polen (Cuad), Frank Thomas, Jr. (Red), Bill Lipton, Peter Fernandez, Jack Grimes (Bobby), Allan Manson, Sam Raskyn, William Redfield

*A photographer gets into an outlaw biker gang to discover which of them shot his son.*

---

**BITTER GRAPES (5-1-60) #850**

Author: Milton Geiger

Phil Meeder (Warren), Rita Lloyd (Lorna), Arthur Kohl, John Seymour, Teri Keane, Edwin Wolfe, Edgar Stehli [Joe Boland]

*A woman is suspicious of her husband and plans his death, then finds that she was wrong.*

---

**THE LEGEND OF ROBBIE (5-8-60) #851**

Author: Walter Black

Larry Robinson (Robbie), George Matthews (Dutch), Joan Lorrington (Sandra), Eric Dressler (Mr. Harris)

*Two con-men force a green clerk to steal his company's payroll.*

---

**DEAD MAN'S STORY (5-15-60) #852**

Author: Robert Arthur

KEVIN McCARTHY (Larry), Rebecca Sand (Julia), Sam Gray (Sanders), Joseph Boland, Richard Kendrick, Ruth Tobin, Guy Repp

*A criminal stows away on a steamer, but it starts sinking and he and a detective are trapped.*

NOTE: This story was originally done on *THE MYSTERIOUS TRAVELER*

---

**OUT THE WINDOW (5-22-60) #853**

Author: William N. Robson

Santos Ortega (Wolchek), Ginger Jones (Nellie), Roger DeKoven, Jane Hossack (Kitten), George Matthews, Marilyn Cole, Sam Raskyn

*The Police commissioner kills two thugs then kills his wife and girlfriend intending to shift the blame.*

---

**THE PERFECT PLAN (5-29-60) #854**

Author: Peter Fernandez

George Petrie (Henry), Paul Potter (Cromwell), Elizabeth Lawrence (Shirley), Patsy Brewster (Elizabeth)

*A bank teller's wife and child are held hostage by two people looking to get \$50,000.*

---

**TWO CAME BACK (6-5-60) #855**

Author: Jules Archer

Adaptation by Ronald Dawson & Joseph Cochran

Robert Readick (Johnny), Connie Lembke (Lily), Robert Donley (Gabe Krilovic),

*Three people avoid natives and headhunters in New Guinea, hoping to escape with half a million in gold.*

NOTE: This story was originally produced for *ESCAPE* on 8-4-50, with an adaptation by Savage Dollar

Script was re-used on *THEATER FIVE* on 6-7-65

---

**ELEMENTAL (6-12-60) #856**

Author: Stephen Vincent Benet

Adaptation by Meyer Dolinsky

Phil Meeder (Latimer), Santos Ortega (Slake), Ellen MacRae (Catherine)

*A young couple accept a bet to test their love against elementals like hunger, fear and loathing.*

NOTE: Benet's original story was adapted for *RADIO CITY PLAYHOUSE* on 2-14-49 by an unknown author; this version for *ESCAPE* by Dolinsky was first presented on 10-11-53 as "Elementals," which is the correct title of Benet's 1922 story; it is not known why the title was slightly changed for *SUSPENSE* as newspaper listings can be found for both the singular and plural of the word.

---

**SIXTY GRAND MISSING (6-19-60) #857**

Author: Robert Arthur

Bernard Grant (Dresser), Ralph Bell, Leon Janney, Sam Raskyn, Joseph Julian, Mason Adams, Michael Kane, Nat Polen

*A big-noting detective steals money from a criminal he arrests, earning him the enmity of his associates.*

NOTE: This story was originally written for *THE MYSTERIOUS TRAVELER*

---

**DAISY CHAIN (6-26-60) #858**

Author: John R. Forrest

JOAN LORRING (Sharon), John Clark (Jimmy), Jane Rose (Mrs. Grimes), Bret Morrison, Marvin Peisner, Mercer McLeod

*A woman and her father believe a young man could be London's infamous Daisy Chain serial killer.*

---

**BON VOYAGE (7-3-60) #859**

Author: Murray Burnett

Robert Readick (Alex), Joseph Julian, Rita Lloyd (Celia), Mary Moore (Ellen), Dan Ocko, Alan Manson

*An embezzler, about to take a boat cruise, races back to cover up his crime and meets a robber.*

NOTE: This show was announced the week before as "End of the Line"

---

**REPORT FROM A DEAD PLANET (7-10-60) #860**

Author: George Bamber

Les Damon (Doctor Siddon), Phil Meeder (Collins), John Larkin (The Captain), William Mason (Lieutenant Jeffrey)

*Astronauts land on a desolate planet and gather evidence to prevent Earth from suffering the same fate.*

Script was re-used on *THEATER FIVE* on 7-26-65 and was retitled "In Absence of All Intelligent Life"

---

**MEMORIAL BRIDGE (7-17-60) #861**

Author: William N. Robson

Robert Dryden (Charlie), Charlotte Manson (Clara), Sam Gray (Foran), Ralph Bell (Foreman), Roger De Koven, Larry Haines (The Detective), Pat Hosley, Lawson Zerbe

*A builder kills his nagging wife and intends to dispose of her corpse under the concrete to be poured into a bridge foundation.*

---

**COLD CANVAS (7-24-60) #862**

Author: Walter Black

William Redfield (Bud Phillips), Ginger Jones (Madeleine), Les Damon (Howard Rigby), Guy Repp (Victor Bouchot) [Paul McGrath, Charlotte Manson were mentioned in a news item]

*An insurance salesman and a woman plan to kill her husband for insurance money.*

---

**END GAME (7-31-60) #863**

Author: David Karp

Santos Ortega (Van Allen), Michael Kane (Victor), Jack Arthur (Berger), Alan Manson (The Trooper)

*A chess master kills a pedestrian and the sheriff won't turn him in if he becomes a full-time chess partner.*

---

---

**THE BIG DIVE (8-7-60) #864**

Author: John West

Leon Janney (Danny King), Rosemary Rice (Betty), Sam Gray (Mike Grogan), Mandel Kramer (Charley), Ralph Bell (The Barker), Bill Smith (Uncle Horace)

*A circus high diver needs \$10,000 to pay a gambling debt or he will be killed.*

---

**NIGHT FERRY TO PARIS (8-14-60) #865**

Author: William N. Robson

William Redfield (Tom), Elaine Rost (Susan), Robert Dryden (Anton), Guy Repp (The Train Attendant), Bret Morrison (Uncle), Frank Milano (Raoul)

*A stranger meets a woman on a train and is quickly embroiled in espionage.*

---

**TRUCK STOP (8-21-60) #866**

Author: Peter Fernandez

Mandel Kramer (Zell), Larry Haines (Benaud), Teri Keane (Maggie), Dan Ocko (Frank), Frank Butler (Charlie), Robert Readick (Simmons)

*Two men plan to rob an armoured truck after noting its regular routine.*

---

**THE GIRL IN THE POWDER BLUE JAG (8-28-60) #867**

Author: Walter Black

Rita Lloyd, Robert Dryden, Jane Rose (*no roles announced*)

*A married couple con an older woman with amnesia to get at her large fortune.*

---

---

**A REST FOR EMILY (9-4-60) #868**

Author: Beryl Firestone

Abby Lewis (Emily), Larry Robinson, Ralph Bell, Lee Graham (Marilee), Bill Smith (Oran)

*An old farmer kills his nagging wife and hides the body beneath his barn. He then continues killing.*

NOTE: Next week's show is announced as "A Grave is for Sleeping" by Edna Rowe

---

**RAKOFSKY'S RUBLES (9-11-60) #869**

Author: William N. Robson

Santos Ortega (Ivan Ivanovich), Bryna Raeburn, Lyn Loring, Roger DeKoven, Robert Readick, Ivor Francis, William Redfield

*An angry man in Russia steals money from his boss, and hides it where he can retrieve it after serving a long jail sentence.*

---

**A STATEMENT OF FACT (9-18-60) #870**

Author: E. Jack Neuman

Rita Lloyd (Ellen Dudley), Mason Adams (Christian), Hal Burdick (Sheriff), Lawson Zerbe (John), Jack Arthur (Thayler)

*A tough attorney's attitude is swayed by the woman he is prosecuting.*

NOTE: This script was originally produced on 11-30-58, and was first written for the *ON STAGE* show of 5-14-53

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**TIME ON MY HANDS (9-25-60) #871**

Author: Walter Black

Santos Ortega (Justin Driscoll), Vera Allen (Emily Driscoll), Robert Dryden (Adolf Hitler), Ted Osborn (Oren Scroggs), Bill Lipton & Marian Russell (the Driscoll's on their honeymoon)

*Time travellers go to the year 1908 in order to prevent Adolf Hitler from coming to power.*

NOTE: Originally written for *THE MYSTERIOUS TRAVELER*

---

**IVY IS A LOVELY NAME, FOR A GIRL (10-2-60) #872**

Author: Sam Pierce

Phil Meeder (Tom), Jane Husack (Linda), Carl Frank (The Cop), Johnny Spencer (Bobby)

*A couple expecting a child race toward hospital, but on the way they have a bad accident and are stranded with the baby due.*

NOTE: This script was originally produced on 6-21-59 (as "Ivy is a Lovely Name")

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**WITNESS FOR DEATH (10-9-60) #873**

Author: Anne Howard Bailey

Adaptation by Ronald Dawson

William Redfield (Randy Stoneman), Frank Thomas, Jr. (Bert Claxton), Mary Jane Higby, Guy Repp, Maurice Tarplin, Ruth Tobin, Roger DeKoven

*A man is a key witness to a murder, but his best friend is the killer.*

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**INFERNO (10-16-60) #874**

Author: Peter Fernandez

Mandel Kramer (Bates), Ellen MacRae (Sheila), Robert Dryden (Ganby), Richard Holland (Lester) [Ralph Bell was mentioned in a news item about the cast]

*In the boiling Arizona desert two old prospectors steal the car of a married couple, leaving them to die.*

---

**NIGHT MAN (10-23-60) #875**

Author: Lucille Fletcher

Ginger Jones (Stella Rhodes), Alan Manson (The Night Man [Tom Nixon]), Bob Donley (The Warden)

*A woman whose mother was murdered swears she has just seen her killer, freed from jail.*

NOTE: This script was originally produced on 10-26-44 and later on 7-26-59

---

**THE CITY THAT WAS (10-30-60) #876**

Author: Richard Wiel

House Jameson (The Narrator), Michael Kane (Bart Malloy), Martha Greenhouse (Rina), Bernard Grant (Kendall), Samuel Raskyn, George Petrie, Danny Ocko

*An out-of-work actor in early Hollywood kills a director and frames a starlet whose boyfriend he hates.*

NOTE: This script was originally produced on 11-17-57

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**THE GREEN LORELEI (11-6-60)  
#877**

Author: George Bamber

Robert Readick (Roger Adams), Herb Duncan, Ellen MacRae, Elizabeth Lawrence, Bill Smith, John Gibson

*A writer hears a woman singing in the apartment above, but its occupant says he has never had a woman living there.*

---

**THE MAN WHO MURDERS PEOPLE (11-13-60) #878**

Author: Mary Ann Norris

Vivian Smolen (Kay), George Petrie (Jenkins), Allan Manson (Bill), Maurice Tarplin (The Conductor)

*On a train, a woman talks about a series of recent knife killings, then she wonders if the men in the compartment are the murderers.*

NOTE: Originally written for *THE MYSTERIOUS TRAVELER*

---

**NIGHT ON RED MOUNTAIN (11-20-60) #879**

Author: William N. Robson

Mandel Kramer (Pete), Lawson Zerbe (Walt), Jim Boles (Bat), Ellen MacRae (Sally), Robert Dryden (Sarge), Bill Adams (Dad), Ruth Tobin (The Operator)

*A reformed criminal meets an old crony and knows his former gang expects him to return.*

NOTE: This script was originally produced on 3-8-55 (as "Nobody Ever Quits"), and also on 9-15-57 & 1-11-59

---

**HOME IS WHERE YOU FIND IT (11-27-60) #880**

Author: Edna Ray

Mandel Kramer (Tex), William Redfield (John),

*Two bookies con people into being runners, but one of them wants to double cross the other.*

*SUSPENSE* is off-air for seven months. This was the final show for producer-director Paul Roberts. When the show returns, his role is assumed by Bruno Zirato, Jr.

*SUSPENSE* returns on 6-25-61, replacing the cancelled *GUNSMOKE*.

Schedule changes to Sundays at 6:35-7:00 p.m., and a format change to 25-minute shows with participating sponsors

Producer/Director: Bruno Zirato, Jr.

Announcer: Stuart Metz (except where noted)

Music supervisor: Ethel Huber

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**CALL ME AT HALF PAST (6-25-61) #881**

Author: Allan Sloane

Elsbeth Eric (Fran), Bernard Grant (Cliff), Sarah Fussell, Jack Grimes, Freddi Chandler, Lawson Zerbe, Frank Milano

*An unstable woman tries to kill her husband, blaming him for the death of their son.*

---

**NIGHT OF THE STORM (7-2-61) #882**

Author: Peter Fernandez

Rosemary Rice (Emily), Ralph Camargo (Rutland), Alan Manson (Steve), Teri Keane (Muriel), Lawson Zerbe (Parker), James Stevens (Jim)

*A desperate woman is in a race against time to save her husband from execution.*

---

**EPITAPH (7-9-61) #883**

Author: Walter Black

Paul McGrath, Barbara Becker (Lucinda), Frank Behrens (Erin Jenkins), Joan Lorrington (Mary), Mary Michael (Agatha)

Announcer: Warren Moran

*A woman's sister dies and she marries her brother-in-law, whom she holds responsible.*

---

**THE MAN WHO KNEW HOW TO HATE (7-16-61) #884**

Author: Walter Black

Joan Lorrington (Grace Larabee), Leon Janney (Peter Friendly), Bill Smith, Robert Dryden (Albert Larabee), Barbara Cassar

*A man falls for a woman and they decide to get rid of her rich husband.*

A news item dated 7-16 indicates that *SUSPENSE* was performed live (?)

---

**STRANGER WITH MY FACE (7-23-61) #885**

Author: Allan Sloane

Bernard Grant (Chuck Morris), Lawson Zerbe,

*A man awakens with no memory of the past four years, and with a new identity and face.*

---

**YOU CAN DIE LAUGHING (7-30-61) #886**

Author: Robert Arthur

Larry Haines (Jack), Evelyn Juster (Betty Willoughby), Gertrude Warner (Jeanne Rexford), Lee Vines (Jolly George Gordon), Ian Martin (Herbert

Willoughby), William Mason (Bill Rexford)

Announcer: Warren Moran

*A woman plans to get rid of her husband whose constant laughter has driven her to near-madness.*

NOTE: Originally written for the *INNER SANCTUM MYSTERIES* show of 5-7-46

---

**BELLS (8-6-61) #887**

Author: Jack Bundy (aka Jack Johnstone)

Rosemary Rice, Bill Lipton, Lawson Zerbe, Toni Darnay, Larry Robinson

*A young couple move into an apparently haunted house where bells of all kinds ring, possibly from beyond.*

<i>SUSPENSE</i> was pre-empted on 8-13-61
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**MURDER IS A MATTER OF OPINION (8-20-61) #888**

Author: Jules Archer (Bill Lipton)

Adaptation by Ronald Dawson

Phil Meeder (Brian), Bill Lipton (Frank), Ronald Liss (Tom Benson), Maurice Tarplin (The Prosecutor), Lawson Zerbe (The Dean), Bob Dryden (The Captain), Bernard Lenrow (Judge Jackson), Ivor Francis (Mr. Chaney)

*Two brothers at law school plan a pretend murder to prove a legal point, but it goes wrong.*

NOTE: Originally written for the *RADIO CITY PLAYHOUSE* show of 5-23-49

---

**SOLD TO SATAN (8-27-61) #889**

Author: Jules Archer

Adaptation by Joseph Cochran

Kermit Murdock (Frank Wineglass),  
Robert Dryden (Harry Feeney), Ian Martin  
(Colonel Dover), Richard Holland  
(Douglas Wineglass), Dick Hamilton (The  
Police Officer), Elizabeth Lawrence  
(Diane Rodell)

Announcer: Warren Moran

*A man plans to murder both his partner  
and the woman who has blackmailed him  
with incriminating photos.*

---

**THE JUVENILE REBELLION (9-3-61)  
#890**

Author: Robert Senandella

Jimsey Sommers (Mary Newhall), Court  
Benson (Ethan Miller), Joseph Boland  
(Chief Hobbs), Ronald Liss (Frank), Pat  
Hosley (Helen)

*Mutants have been disguised as children  
and are now ready to take over the world  
for a new start.*

Script was re-used on *THEATER FIVE* on  
8-1-64 and was retitled "Rebellion Next  
Week"

<p><i>SUSPENSE</i> was pre-empted on 9-10-61 for "Battle of the Batters" hosted by Bob Hite</p>
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**THE GREEN IDOL (9-17-61) #891**

Author: Jack Bundy (aka Jack Johnstone)

Parker Fennelly, Luis Van Rooten (Al  
Hamad), Guy Repp (The Fakir), Abby  
Lewis (Ethel), Mercer McLeod (Dr.  
Etherington), Ronald Liss (The Elevator  
Boy)

*Tourists in Arabia buy a small green  
statue which comes with a murderous  
curse.*

---

**THE MAN IN THE FOG (9-24-61)  
#892**

Author: Joseph Cochran

Robert Dryden, Ethel Everett, Lawson  
Zerbe, Mercer McLeod, Guy Repp (*No  
roles were announced*)

*A slasher killer is loose in London, and a  
woman suspects her husband.*

---

**NO HIDING PLACE (10-1-61) #893**

Authors: Morris Lee Green & William  
Walker

Court Benson, Grace Matthews, Bill Smith  
(Mr. Richards), Jimsey Summers (Cindy),  
Ivor Francis (The Announcer), Leon  
Janney (The Mayor), Larry Robinson  
(Sandy), Lee Vines (Charlie Lemmon)

*A family accepts a bet to spend a fortnight  
in a new bomb shelter but a catastrophic  
mud slide traps them.*

NOTE: This script was previously  
produced on 9-21-58

---

**DREAMS (10-8-61) #894**

Author: Jack Bundy (aka Jack Johnstone)

Phillip Sterling (Robert), Raymond  
Edward Johnson (Thaddeus Hagan),  
Barbara Cassar (The Girl), Connie Lemke  
(Janet), Richard Kendrick (Mr. Bolton),  
Edgar Stehli (Dr. Harris)

*A man's dreams of murder result in real  
deaths, and now he dreams of his own.*

---

**SEEDS OF DISASTER (10-15-61)  
#895**

Author: David Hill

Bernard Grant (Les), Guy Repp (The Photographer), Connie Lemke (Pam), Bob Dryden (Garcia), Barbara Cassar (The Operator), Ralph Camargo (Lopez), Dellie Sonnenberg (The Maid)

*A man frantically seeks his wife and daughter in case the child eats some poisoned seeds on a souvenir he bought.*

---

**WITNESS TO MURDER (10-22-61)  
#896**

Author: Frances Rickett

Joan Lorrington (), Leon Janney (Larry), Bryna Raeburn (Mrs. Blake), Mercer McCloud (Ship's Doctor), Guy Repp (The Man), Bob Dryden (Captain Woodbridge), Ronald Dawson (Ship's Steward)

*On a cruise ship a husband accuses his wife of doing things she can't remember.*

---

**DEATH OF AN OLD FLAME (10-29-61) #897**

Author: George Bamber

Special music composed & performed by Norman Paris

Larry Haines (Ronnie Warren), Teri Keane (Anna), Evie Juster (The Girl), Robert Donley (Leo), Ralph Bell (Frank)

*A musician helps an old flame and her boyfriend rob a fur factory and then burn it down for the insurance.*

Script was re-used on *THEATER FIVE* on 5-20-65

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**TILL DEATH DO US PART (11-5-61)  
#898**

Author: Ben Kagan

Sam Gray, Bill Lipton, Jim Boles, Barbara Cassar, Carl Frank, Herb Duncan, Elaine Rost

*(No roles are announced)*

*A man tries to kill his wife with strong poison but he is driven crazy when she shows no reaction.*

NOTE: Originally written for the *HOLLYWOOD STAR PLAYHOUSE* show of 8-2-51

---

**THE IMPOSTERS (11-12-61) #899**

Author: Peter Fernandez

Reynold Osbourne, Charita Bauer (Angela), Arline Blackburn, Bill Lipton, Melville Ruick, Cliff Carpenter

*(No roles are announced)*

*A maid and butler kill their employers and assume their identities.*

Script was re-used on *THEATER FIVE* on 1-21-65

---

**THE BLACK DOOR (11-19-61) #900**

Author: Robert Arthur

Robert Readick, Ralph Camargo,

*(No support cast or roles played are announced)*

*A lost city is discovered in an extinct volcano, and behind a door lies treasure, at a price.*

NOTE: This story was originally produced on *THE MYSTERIOUS TRAVELER* show of 3-18-52

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### **MAN TRAP (11-26-61) #901**

Author: John Roeburt

Announcer: Warren Moran

Don McLaughlin (Delaney), Ralph Bell (Artie Finch), Joseph Julian (Gallaher), Teri Keane (Lola), Ralph Camargo (Pedro), Lawson Zerbe (Pop Wilkes)

*A man is killed on a roadworks site and his widow tries framing his workmate for murder.*

NOTE: Originally written for the *INNER SANCTUM MYSTERIES* show of 12-18-50, "Murder By Consent"

---

### **THE LUCK OF THE TIGER EYE (12-3-61) #902**

Author: Jack Buttram

Joan Lorrington, Leon Janney, Raymond Edward Johnson (Gerald), Mercer McLeod (Commander Quinn)

*A greedy man seeks the "tiger eye" ring to gain power but it is on the hand of his girlfriend's uncle, who is buried in a crypt.*

---

### **AND SO, TO SLEEP MY LOVE (12-10-61) #903**

Author: Dave Gilbert

William Redfield, Bryna Raeburn (Delma Stevens), Elaine Rost, Bernard Lenrow (Mr. Phillips), Abby Lewis (special wailing & laughing effects)

*A husband tries to kill his wife by driving her crazy via a record player that deprives her of sleep.*

---

### **YULETIDE MIRACLE (12-17-61) #904**

Author: John Roeburt

Larry Haines (Chris), Joe de Santis (Brannigan), Bill Lipton (Tommy), Santos

Ortega (Sir Benjamin), Rosemary Rice (Linda), Katharine Raht (Mrs. Simmons)

*A crook hides in a skid row mission where a man offers him the gift of invisibility.*

NOTES: Originally written for the *INNER SANCTUM MYSTERIES* show of 12-26-49 & 12-25-50, "The Enchanted Ghost"

<p><i>SUSPENSE</i> was pre-empted on 12-24-61, for <i>CHRISTMAS SING WITH BING</i></p>
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### **THE OLD MAN (12-31-61) #905**

Author: Bob Corcoran

Announcer: Warren Moran

Leon Janney (The Old Man), Reynold Osborne (The Director), Larry Haines (The Tippler), Rita Lloyd (Miss Fowler), Ivor Francis (Assistant to Director), Guy Repp (Johnson), Ralph Camargo (The Announcer), Lawson Zerbe (Joe Walston)

*Old Man 1961 won't make way for Infant 1962 and threatens to upset the world order.*

---

### **BREAKTHROUGH (1-7-62) #906**

Author: William N. Robson

Adelaide Klein, Phillip Sterling, Robert Dryden (Weiss), Danny Ocko (First BOP), Alan Manson (Carl), Luis Van Rooten (Third BOP), Sam Raskyn (Escapee), Doug Parkhirst (The G. I.), Guy Repp (Second BOP)

*A family tries to reach the West just as The Berlin Wall nears completion, but his mother is too late and is trapped on the Communist side.*

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**FEATHERS (1-14-62) #907**

Author: Jonathan Bundy [aka Jack Johnstone]

Lawson Zerbe (Peatie), Bill Mason (Sgt. Brady), Bob Readick (Feathers), Ian Martin (Captain Nichols), John Thomas (Lt. Gilroy)

*Loan sharks fall out and one kills the other, then the murdered man's brother appears.*

---

**2462 (1-21-62) #908**

Author: George Bamber

Lawson Zerbe (Frank Smith), Rosemary Rice (Court Stenographer), William Mason (Young), Robert Randall (Lieutenant), Robert Dryden (Old Guard)

*In a totalitarian future a man is on trial for daring to write poetry.*

---

**PLEASE BELIEVE ME (1-28-62) #909**

Author: Ben Kagan

Robert Readick (Tony), Joan Lorrington (Julia)

*A man suspects his wife of infidelity and plans a poison murder.*

---

**FRIDAY (2-4-62) #910**

Author: Jonathan Bundy [aka Jack Johnstone]

Ivor Francis, Hetty Galen (Girl), Bill Lipton, Herb Duncan, Dave Gilbert, Robert Dryden (Etherington), Mercer McLeod (Captain Friday), William Redfield (Morley), Lawson Zerbe (Archcroft)

*A sailor refuses to believe in superstitions about Friday and even launches his new boat on Friday the 13<sup>th</sup>.*

---

**THE MAN WHO WENT BACK TO SAVE LINCOLN (2-11-62) #911**

Author: Robert Arthur

Ian Martin (Professor), Ralph Bell (Man), Margaret Draper (Mary Andrews), Cliff Carpenter (Buckingham), Court Benson (Tom), Jim Boles (Voice of Lincoln)

*A Lincoln student travels through time to prevent the Booth assassination.*

NOTES: This show was timed for the eve of Lincoln's birthday

Originally written for *THE MYSTERIOUS TRAVELER* show of 2-7-50

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**THE OLD BOY FRIEND (2-18-62) #912**

Author: Peter Fernandez

Elsbeth Eric (Maggie), Joseph Julian, Lawson Zerbe (Police Lieutenant), Francie Myers (Babs), [Peter Fernandez]

*A woman regrets meeting an old high-school boyfriend when he kidnaps her daughter for ransom.*

---

**DATE NIGHT (2-25-62) #913**

Author: William N. Robson

Rosemary Rice (Cathy), Guy Repp, Fredi Chandler, Jack L. Grimes, William Mason, Toni Darnay, Sam Gray (Father), Richard Holland (Jerry), Lawson Zerbe, Bill Lipton [Ian Martin]

*A father stays up all night panicking about his daughter's first date.*

---

**DOOM MACHINE (3-4-62) #914**

Author: Edgar Marvin

Leon Janney (Dr. Ferris), Elaine Rost,  
Bernard Grant, Eugene Francis, Cliff  
Carpenter

*A scientist in 2500 creates a robot which  
will test a solar power machine, but it  
doesn't work as hoped.*

---

**HEADS, YOU LOSE (3-11-62) #915**

Author: Robert Arthur

William Redfield (Steve Kimberly),  
Jimsey Summers (Secretary), Raymond  
Edward Johnson (Joshua Franklin),  
Melville Ruick (Professor Green), Kermit  
Murdock (Harrison Maude), Santos Ortega  
(Rollo Collins)

*Detectives are tracing the whereabouts of  
a missing financier, until someone gets a  
call from the tycoon.*

---

**PERCHANCE TO DREAM (3-18-62)  
#916**

Author: Bob Corcoran

Paul McGrath (Dr. Locke), Toni Darnay,  
Guy Repp, Teri Keane, Robert Dryden,  
Bernard Grant

*A psychiatric patient is pronounced cured  
but the doctor realizes he was wrong and  
the man is still homicidal.*

NOTE: Originally written for the  
*STARRING BORIS KARLOFF* show of 10-  
19-49

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**MEMORY OF A MURDER (3-25-62)  
#917**

Author: John Roeburt

Phillip Sterling (Harry Jonas), Ethel  
Everett (Anna), James Monks  
(Constantine), Connie Lembcke  
(Marietta), Lawson Zerbe (Charlie Prince),  
Ralph Bell (Lt. Belsen)

Announcer: Warren Moran

*A man confesses to a murder that took  
place ten years before his birth.*

NOTE: This script was originally written  
for the *TALES OF FATIMA* show of 7-23-  
49, and was also produced on *INNER  
SANCTUM MYSTERIES*

---

**YOU DIED LAST NIGHT (4-1-62)  
#918**

Author: Robert Arthur

Sound: Joseph Cabibbo

Santos Ortega, Robert Readick

Announcer: Warren Moran

*A prospector comes upon a Martian  
spaceship and is taken prisoner.*

NOTE: Originally written for *THE  
MYSTERIOUS TRAVELER*

---

**LET THERE BE LIGHT (4-8-62) #919**

Author: Irwin Lewis

Ivor Francis, Teri Keane (Gloria), Jean  
Gillespie (Helen)

Announcer: Warren Moran

*A blind man is terrorized by a gangster,  
until he turns the tables by cutting off the  
lights.*

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---

**BROTHER JOHN (4-15-62) #920**

Author: Elspeth Eric

William Redfield (Frank), Connie Lembke (Constance Tremaine), Paul McGrath (Gerald Tremaine), Sam Gray (John), Bill Smith (Doctor), Guy Repp (Voice of Charlie)

Announcer: Warren Moran

*The brother of a murdered butler takes his place but realizes that the job is more involved than he thought.*

---

**THE CURSE OF KAMOSHEK (4-22-62) #921**

Author: Jonathan Bundy [aka Jack Johnstone]

Ian Martin (Turnbull), Mercer McLeod (Walden), Guy Repp (Doctor), Raymond Edward Johnson (Brackton), John Thomas (Donald)

*An ancient Egyptian curse appears to be still potent, causing death.*

**NOTE:** This was a reworking of "The Curse of Kamoshek Matter" script from *YOURS TRULY, JOHNNY DOLLAR* (9-3 to 9-7-56)

---

**BLACKBEARD'S ACE (4-29-62) #922**

Author: Jack Buttram

Elaine Rost, Bob Dryden (Jed), John Thomas

*A woman is possessed by the spirit of a pirate and hopes to reclaim his treasure.*

---

**THE SECOND DOOR (5-6-62) #923**

Author: Robert Readick

Sound: Walter Otto

Robert Readick, Paul McGrath (Dr. Etterly), Barbara Cassar (Marilla), Robert Dryden (The Farmer)

*A man discovers a strange TV set that can project the viewer in to anything on the screen.*

---

**HIDE AND SEEK (5-13-62) #924**

Author: Bob Corcoran

Sound: Joseph Cabibbo, Donald Creed

Jackson Beck (Dandy DeAngelis), William Redfield, Santos Ortega (Bigelow), Larry Haines (Lloyd), Jack Grimes (Herbie), Joseph Julian (Earl)

*A prominent gambler who loves the refined life is in debt to the mob and must hide in a foul alley among rats.*

---

**DAGGER OF THE MIND (5-20-62) #925**

Author: Mercer McLeod

Leon Janney (Mr. Kent), Claire Niesen (Vicki Kent), Guy Repp (Office Boy), Ralph Camargo (Dr. Randow), Evelyn Juster (Martha Coles)

*A dangerously jealous woman suspects her husband is seeing other women.*

---

**THAT REAL CRAZY INFINITY (5-27-62) #926**

Author: Dick W. Dowling

Sound: Joseph Cabibbo

Jack Grimes (Bud), Richard Holland (Lew), Robert Dryden (Charlie Oland), Cort Benson (Professor Norvell Higgins), Athena Lorde (Jenny), Robert Readick (Max Wesson), Guy Repp (The voice of Julius Caesar)

*A pair of musicians meet an inventor who has a machine that can bring back the sounds of long ago.*

---

**STAND-IN FOR MURDER (6-3-62)  
#927**

Author: Gladys Gelarte

Teri Keane (Kay), Larry Haines (Jim), Claire Niesen (Lora), Toni Darnay, Jack Grimes, Ivor Francis, Joseph Julian, Bob Readick, Bill Lipton (*no other roles played were announced*)

*A man accidentally kills his girlfriend and needs his ex-wife to give him an alibi.*

NOTE: This was the final *SUSPENSE* instalment produced & directed by Bruno Zirato, Jr. who moved to television direction. His engineer Fred Hendrickson was promoted to the Producer/Director position, and finished the series run

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**FORMULA FOR DEATH (6-10-62)  
#928**

Author: Jonathan Bundy [aka Jack Johnstone]

Ivor Francis (Frenald), David Kerman, Robert Readick, Walter Greaza (Colonel Humboldt), Herbert Duncan (Stefan), Luis Van Rooten (Dr. Hoffman), Guy Repp (The gardener)

*A spy murders a scientist who has made an important research breakthrough, but there is no record of his formula.*

NOTE: This was the final show where actors are identified by the roles they played

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**THE LUNATIC HOUR (6-17-62) #929**

Author: John Roeburt

George Matthews (Tom Morley), Rosemary Rice, Donald Buka, Dick Keith, Les Damon

*A rail operator is visited by the ghost of an engineer who died due to the man's mistake.*

NOTE: Originally written for the *INNER SANCTUM MYSTERIES* show of 5-28-51, "The Unforgiving Corpse"

---

**WITH MURDER IN MIND (6-24-62)  
#930**

Author: Irwin Lewis

Jack Kruschen (Anton Teslar), Bryna Raeburn, Gilbert Mack, Reni Santoni, Jane Ward, Jim Boles, Jack Grimes, William Redfield

*A mentalist amazes his audiences with his talent, and when his wife is killed he is still able to read her mind.*

NOTE: Kruschen is mentioned as currently appearing in the Broadway hit "I Can Get it for You Wholesale"

---

**BLACK DEATH (7-1-62) #931**

Author: Mercer McLeod

Sound patterns: Walter Otto

Christopher Carey (Charles), Mary Jane Higby, Leon Janney, James Ducas, Frank Milano

*A couple meet a man in a house on the English Moors who has a death ray machine.*

NOTE: Carey is mentioned as currently appearing in "Camelot."

---

**THE SIN-EATER (7-8-62) #932**

Author: Bob Corcoran

Sound Patterns: Walter Otto

Jim Boles, Ethel Everett, Herb Duncan,  
Rita Lloyd, Doug Parkhirst, Ivor Francis,  
Guy Repp

*In the south two men want to perform the  
ritualistic transference of sin from a dying  
man to a living person.*

---

**SNOW ON 66 (7-15-62) #933**

Author: William N. Robson

Sound patterns: Walter Otto

Jimmie Blaine, Grayson Hall, Gwen  
Davies, James Dmitri, Bill Mason, Sam  
Raskyn

*A couple are being annoyed by a  
dangerous and crazy driver on the  
highway.*

---

**THE NEXT MURDER (7-22-62) #934**

Author: Joseph Cochran

Sound: Walter Otto

Joe Julian, Lawson Zerbe, Reynold  
Osborne, Elizabeth Lawrence, William  
Redfield

*Two men share accommodation and  
discover they are both obsessed with  
murder.*

NOTE: "Run Faster" was announced as  
the next show, but it didn't air until two  
weeks later.

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**WEEKEND AT GLEBES (7-29-62)  
#935**

Author: Elspeth Eric

Sound: Walter Otto

Technical director: Michael Shosgiss

Raymond Edward Johnson, Tommy Leith  
(Wallace), Neil Fitzgerald, Christopher  
Carey, Hillary Holden, Grayson Hall

*A woman seeks her birth child who has  
been in foster care, but when the step  
family won't give up the boy the mother  
must kidnap him.*

---

**RUN FASTER (8-5-62) #936**

Author: Lois Landauer

Sound: Walter Otto

Technical director: Fred Kusick

Bill Lipton, Jimmy Blaine, Roger  
DeKoven, Ted Pavel, Guy Repp, Jimsey  
Summers, Bob Readick

*An air traffic controller knows his wife  
might be killed by a maniac but he must  
first contend with an emergency landing in  
poor weather.*

A *VARIETY* item dated 8-8-62 confirmed the long-expected demise of radio's "entertainment role." CBS, the final network to maintain some dramatic programming, announced that *SUSPENSE* and *YOURS TRULY*, *JOHNNY DOLLAR* would be cancelled by October, along with the *BING CROSBY-ROSEMARY CLOONEY SHOW*. Network schedules would soon be all news, sport and informational programming. The end of an era, long predicted as television inexorably and totally conquered radio as a viable entertainment medium, had finally arrived.

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**THE SILVER SHOE (8-12-62) #937**

Author: Robert Readick

Sound: Walter Otto

Technical director: Michael Shosgiss

William Mason, Rita Lloyd, Gertrude Warner, Ralph Camargo, Toni Darnay, Dick Keith

*A sailor meets a woman in a dance hall and she is the image of his deceased fiancée.*

---

**PAGES FROM A DIARY (8-19-62) #938**

Author: Virginia Volland

Jim Backus (John), Henny Backus (Janet)

*A man is diagnosed with a severe case of split personality where he seems to be two people.*

---

**THE LOST SHIP (8-26-62) #939**

Author: Irwin Lewis

Sound: Walter Otto

Technical director: Fred Turner

Matt Cooper (Harry Turner), Jean Gillespie (Viola), Bill Adams (Pete Townley)

*A couple fleeing the law hear of a Spanish galleon containing a treasure in gold.*

---

**THE DEATH OF ALEXANDER JORDAN (9-2-62) #940**

Author: Hector Chevigny

Sound: Walter Otto

Technical director: Fred Turner

Paul McGrath, Connie Lembke, William Mason, Edgar Stehli

*An old man leaves an inheritance to his daughter-in-law, aware that his own son is a no-good.*

NOTE: Originally written for the *CREEPS BY NIGHT* show of 4-23-44, "Strange Burial of Alexander Jordan"

---

**A STRANGE DAY IN MAY (9-9-62) #941**

Author: Michael Healy

Sound: Walter Otto

Technical director: Michael Shosgiss

William Mason (Thomas Manning), Toni Darnay, Bill Lipton, Bill Smith, Reynold Osborne, Maurice Tarplin (Tarplin the reporter), Herbert Duncan

*An astronaut enters a parallel universe after being caught in a space storm.*

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**THE GOLDEN YEARS (9-16-62) #942**

Author: William N. Robson

Editor: Norman Ober

Peter Fernandez (Buddy), Rosemary Rice, Ivor Francis, Pat Hosley, Elspeth Eric, Ronald Dawson, Mary Jane Higby, Bret Morrison

Announcer: Warren Moran

*A girl thinks her boyfriend is going to kill his own father.*

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**AT THE POINT OF A NEEDLE  
(9-23-62) #943**

Author: Joseph Cochran

Editor: Norman Ober

Technical director: James Berry

Betty Garde (Myra), Walter Kinsella  
(George), Teri Keane, Bill Adams, Bob  
Readick

Announcer: Warren Moran

*A downtrodden husband reaches boiling  
point when his ogre of a wife begins  
feuding with neighbors.*

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**DEVILSTONE (9-30-62) #944**

Author: Jonathan Bundy [aka Jack  
Johnstone]

Sound: Walter Otto

Technical director: Fred Kusik

Associate Producer: Bernie Seabrooks

Christopher Carey (Tim Martin), Neil  
Fitzgerald (Ian Carney), Gilbert Mack,  
Walter Greaza, Frank Milano, Reynold  
Osborne

*A man inherits a Scottish castle and finds  
it is haunted by an ancestral ghost.*

NOTE: This was the 944<sup>th</sup> and final  
*SUSPENSE* broadcast.

**The death of old-time radio  
was the final and still-lingering  
mystery in the 20-year  
*SUSPENSE* saga.**

**Theme out...**